RETURN OF PRINCESS ROUANA

SINCE THEN, CAYAN'S NAME HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A SOURCE OF MISERY AND TERROR.
CAYAN'S DISCIPLE?
MY NAME IS ASHA.
I CAME HERE AT THE REQUEST OF MY MASTER. HE ASKED ME TO DELIVER A MESSAGE.

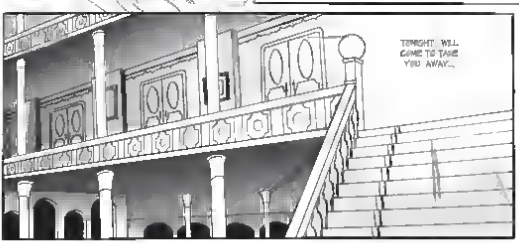
CAYAN...! DID SHE SAY CAYAN?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
THAT NAME HAS BEEN FORBIDDEN IN THIS COURT FOR 40 YEARS!
SO I WONDER WHAT THAT VILLAIN IS UP TO NOW. WHAT DOES HE WISH TO SAY?
GRIP
THAT PRINCESS ROU ROUANA
IS GOING TO RETURN.
PRINCESS ROUANA...?!

DO DO YOU MEAN MY OLDER SISTER IS STILL ALIVE? WE'VE SEARCHED THE ENTIRE KINGDOM AND COULDN'T FIND HER!
I'M BECOMING MORE AND MORE SUSPICIOUS OF WHAT CAVAN HAS UP HIS SLEEVE.
SPEAK! WHAT EVIL IS HE PLANNING-?
I... I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING! HE JUST TOLD ME TO TELL YOU...
FLINCH
HMPH. WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? TAKE THAT SLY LITTLE THING AND LOCK HER IN THE DUNGEONS! MAKE SURE YOU PRY OUT OF HER EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT CAVAN'S EVIL PLANS!
WA-BAM
N...NO... WAIT!
SQUEEZE
YOU CAN'T DO THIS...!
GRIP
THAT'S ENOUGH!
CLACK

MOTHER...
HUBBUB
THE QUEEN MOTHER...
I MAY HAVE POOR EYESIGHT DUE TO OLD AGE, BUT FROM THE SOUND OF THAT VINCE, SHE'S JUST A SMALL GIRL, LITTLE MORE THAN A CHILD
THERE SEEMS TO BE NO REASON FOR US TO BE SO ROUGH WITH HER...
QUEEN MOTHER...? THE MOTHER OF THE KING?
BUT THIS G RL IS CAVAN'S DISCIPLE! WE NEVER KNOW WHAT SINISTER TRICKS LURK BEHIND THAT INNOCENT FACE.
CAVAN WASN'T ONE TO TELL LIES. LET US WAIT A BIT LONGER AND OBSERVE THE SITUATION.
F YOU'RE UNEASY I WILL TAKE SOLE RESPONSIB LITY FOR THIS GIRL.

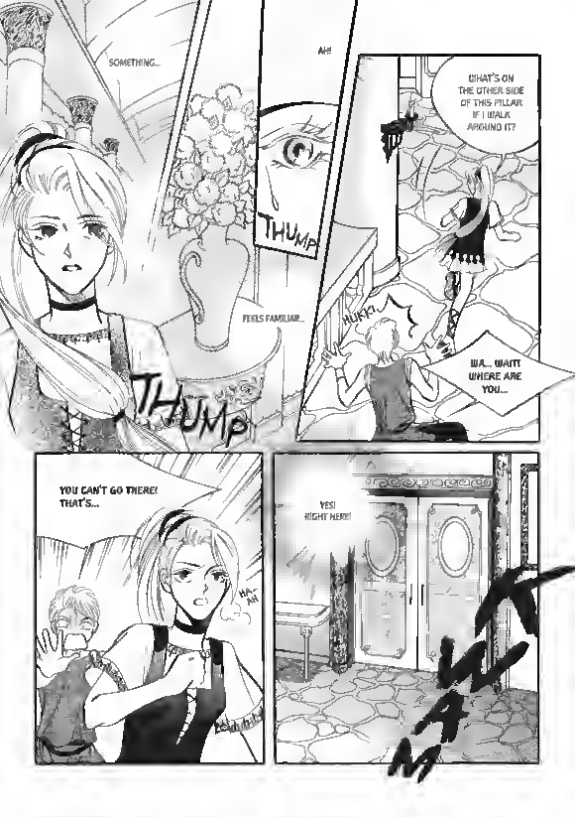
I CAN ASSURE YOU...
YOU WILL REGRET THIS DECISION.
YOU SAVED MY LIFE!
TH...THANK YOU!!
I DID IT BECAUSE I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T HURT ME, SO THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO BE IMPRESSED.
WHAT..? OH, YES (...).
THE CHAMBER MAID WILL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM. REST WELL.
YOU CAN BE EXCUSED AS WELL...
YES, MASTER.

ROXANA...
MY DAUGHTER.
TOMORROW THE ESCORTS WILL COME AND TAKE ME AWAY AS THE BRIDE. SO TONIGHT IS THE ONLY CHANCE I HAVE...
YOU WILL UNDERSTAND ME. WON'T YOU, NIPTERR?
...I CAN'T CHOOSE ANY OTHER WAY
SO HOW WAS IT THEN? ...DID YOU MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE...?


TONIGHT, WILL COME TO TAKE YOU AWAY...

HUH?
...I'M SURE I HEARD SOMETHING JUST NOW
...AM I WRONG?
IT'S STANN-
-ERIE STANN-
EEP!
IT'S ME.
KYAAAAH
TA TA TA
WHY ARE THEY ALL SHOUTING THAT? IT'S LIKE THEY SAW A MONSTER OR SOMETHING...
THIS IS LIKE THE 3RD TIME...
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE THE SORCERER'S DISCIPLE.

THE EVIL SORCERER WHO K LLED THOUSANDS, NO TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WITH HIS CURSE
WOOSH
MY... MY MASTER ISN'T LIKE THAT! WHAT'S UP WITH EVERYONE? THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING...!!
GRRR
BUT EVERYONE BELIEVES THAT THE PLAGUE OF 40 YEARS AGO WAS HIS FAULT
N, NO... NOTHING IN PARTICULAR...
IT'S JUST THAT SOMETH NG'S BEEN BOTHERING ME SINCE I GOT HERE.
ANYWAY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING? YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING AROUND HERE AND THERE FROM BEFORE


SOMETHING...
AH!
THUMP
WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PILLAR IF I WALK AROUND IT?
FEELS FAMILIAR...
HUH?!
THUMP
WA... WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU...
YOU CAN'T GO THERE! THAT'S...
HA HA
YES! RIGHT HERE!
WHAM

STOP IT!
TASH
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT GOING INTO THIS ROOM!
WHY?
THIS IS PRINCESS ROUANA'S ROOM. THE LATE KING LOCKED IT HIMSELF
NOBODY'S ALLOWED IN HERE. IT'S OFF LIMITS!
PRINCESS ROUANA'S ROOM...?!

...
...HMM...
I'LL BE TONIGHT...
OOOH...
YOU'LL RUN AWAY WITH ME, KUSANAGI!
TONIGHT I WI... CAME TO TAKE YOU AWAY

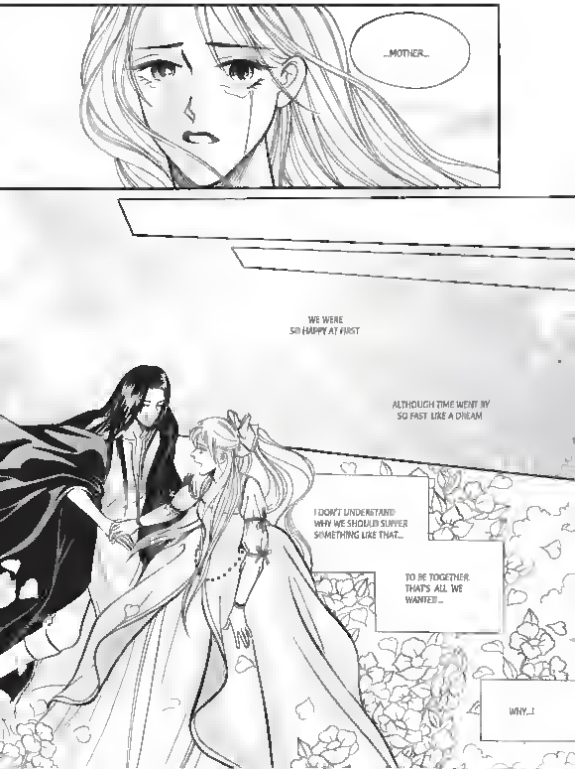
HUK...!
HA AH
WH... WHAT'S THIS?
I'M ABOUT TO REMEMBER SOMETHING. SOMETHING VERY... IMPORTANT...
GRIP
THROB-
HWOOSH

YOUR MAJESTY! YOUR MAJESTY! THERE'S AN EMERGENCY-
HE'S CERTAIN SHE'S GOING TO CAST SOME SORT OF A SPELL... WHAT SHOULD WE...
TAP TAP TAP
CAYAN'S DISCIPLE WENT INTO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE... INTO PRINCESS ROXANA'S ROOM!
CALL THE PALACE GUARDS RIGHT NOW! I'LL DRAG THAT EVIL THING OUT OF THERE MYSELF!
CLENCH
SHE... WENT INTO ROXANA'S ROOM?

THUMP
THANK YOU, CAVAN, FOR MAKING THE DECISION !
YES... THAT NIGHT...

I CAN'T LOSE YOU, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS
SQZZ
EVEN IF...
I HAVE TO SACRIFICE EVERYTHING FOR THIS LOVE.
CAYAN...
DRIPP
KBANG

YOU EVIL THING! WHAT BLACK MAGIC ARE YOU TRYING TO CONJURE IN THIS ROOM...?!
RUMBLE
NO!
I WASN'T SURE, BUT...
HA~ AH
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY GUESS WAS RIGHT..!
CAN YOU NOT SEE? THIS CHILD, SHE'S ACTUALLY...
YOUR SISTER! SHE'S PRINCESS ROUANA!!


...MOTHER...
WE WERE SO HAPPY AT FIRST
ALTHOUGH TIME WENT BY SO FAST LIKE A DREAM
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY WE SHOULD SUFFER SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
TO BE TOGETHER. THAT'S ALL WE WANTED...
WHY...!

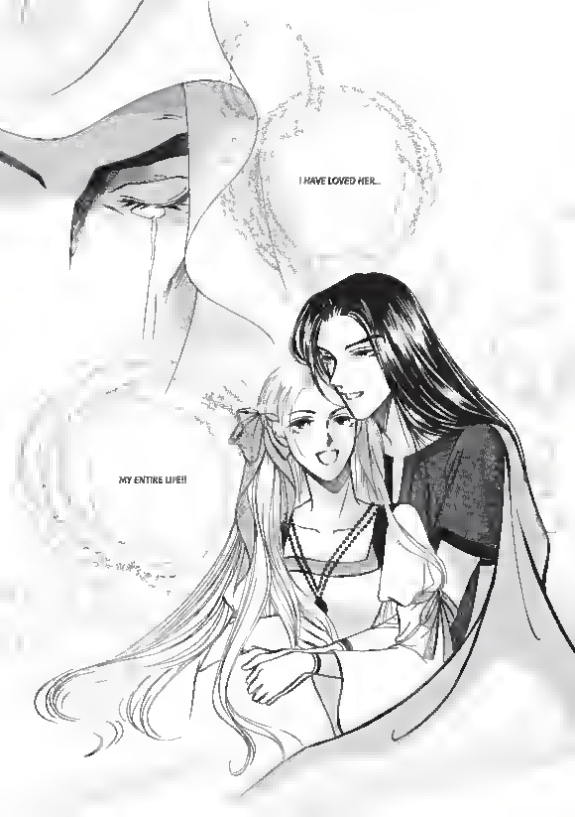
ROUANA!!
HA-AH
HA-AH
ROUANA, WAKE UP...!
..ROUANA!
HA-AH
PLAGUE FELL ON US...
DAMN IT!
I CAN'T CURE
THIS DISEASE! EVEN I...
I DON'T KNOW THIS IS!
TRESH
YOU SAY THAT THE PLAGUE
WAS THE RESULT OF CAYAN'S
CURSE? THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
...HE WAS IN SUCH DESPAIR...
SO MUCH DESPAIR...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN YOU AWAY FROM THE PALACE!
WHY DIDN'T I GET THE PLAGUE? I AM THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE PUNISHED BY DEATH-!
WHY...?!
O... DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS.
I DON'T REGRET ANYTHING...
HUHU
HUHU
..DON'T BE SAD, CAVAN.
I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU DIE.
ROUANA...!

I SWEAR BY MY NAME, CAYAN THE SORCERER
I WILL NEVER LET YOU DIE...!
I'LL PUT YOU TO SLEEP WITH MY MAGIC
WHEN I FIND THE CURE I'LL WAKE YOU.
ZRAK

NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT IT IS, NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES, I WON'T GIVE UP
I WILL MAKE SURE THAT YOU COME BACK ALIVE AND SMILE ONCE AGAIN...!
ARE YOU AWAKE, ASHA?
ZRAK
HA-AH
I FEEL STRANGE. MASTER, WAS I IN BED FOR LONG?

YOU WERE ONLY SICK FOR A LITTLE WHILE, THAT'S ALL.
...FORGIVE ME, ROUANA.
COME HERE. I WANT TO SEND YOU OFF ON AN ERRAND.
I'VE GROWN OLD AND UGLY
THAT'S ALL. I NEED TO SAY, RIGHT?
I DON'T FEEL GOOD ABOUT DOING THIS,
BUT IT CAN'T BE AVOIDED
I NEED TO SEND YOU BACK NOW
OH, AND ONE MORE THING...
WHEN YOU SEE PRINCESS ROUANA, BE SURE TO TELL HER THAT


I HAVE LOVED HER...
MY ENTIRE LIFE!!

BELIEVE YE YOUR EYES?

HER BULLET MISSED ME
THE ONLY THING I FELT WAS A SHOCK, LIKE THE LIGHT FROM THE MOMENT THE GUN WAS FIRED PENETRATING MY EYES
THAT'S ALL...
BUT THAT'S WHEN IT BEGAN, OF THIS I'M CERTAIN.
SEE?
WHAT'S THE OCCASION? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE BY YOURSELF
GIRLS ARE FINALLY LEAVING YOU ALONE?
HIC
WHAT ABOUT YOU, THEN?
CAN'T YOU TELL? I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A DATE.
THAT STRANGE SYMPTOM I CAN'T CURE OR TALK TO A DOCTOR ABOUT...
STARTED TO APPEAR...
LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TWO. TH S IS HEATHER. HEATHER, I WENT TO YALE WITH THIS GUY
HE'S THE HUMAN BEAST EVERYONE WANTS TO FORGET
OH MY...!

HAHA. IT'S ALL RIGHT. HE'S NOT HUMAN ENOUGH TO BE HURT BY WHAT I JUST SAID.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT LIES BEHIND THAT BEAUTIFUL SHELL OF HIS?
HE'S A COLD-BLOODED CASANOVA. THAT'S WHAT HE EXACTLY IS!
WHATEVER. LET'S JUST GO!
OKAY. I'LL SEE YOU AROUND.
IF YOU DON'T GET KILLED BY ONE OF YOUR LADY FRIENDS, THAT IS!
COLD-BLOODED CASANOVA?
WHAT A JOKE
I CAN NO LONGER SEE WOMEN AT ALL...!
I SUPPOSE I WAS INDIFFERENT TO WOMEN FROM THE BEGINNING

SURE, I MUST CONFESS THAT I DISLIKE BEING SO INDIFFERENT TO THE CHARMS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX...
HORMONES, CHEMICAL REACTIONS... I'M A GUY TOO.
SO FOR ME, ONLY "THEY" EXISTED. GIRLS WHO WERE NO DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER GIRLS
WHAT CAN I DO? THEY WON'T LET ME BE ALONE.
CLICK
ARE YOU HERE ALONE?
HU-
OH MY GOD... ARE YOU PARANOID OR SOMETHING?
YOU'RE LIKE THAT MALE CHARACTER FROM "1-1/2 WEEKS".
THOSE KINDS OF PSYCHOS DO EXIST, THEN

SO... ARE YOU SCARED?
THWAP
SEI...!
TO BE HONEST I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO COMPLAIN ABOUT
TO PHYSICALLY FEEL THESE WOMEN THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME.
AHHH-SEI.
I DIDN'T WANT TO FALL FOR A CREEP LIKE YOU...
BUT I REALLY CAN'T HELP IT.
IT BECOME AWARE FOR HER LOOKS SHE BECOMES SPECIAL TO ME...
SOMETHING THAT'S UNNECESSARY FOR ME
SHHH. BE QUIET
SHHF

SLURP
HMPH! IT'S THAT PIGHEADED WRITER FROM NEXT DOOR.
SLURP
PFFF
AHHHHH!
WA... WAIT A MINUTE...
WASN'T THAT A WOMAN JUST NOW?
GLUG
GLUG
HE... HEY!
BUT I ACTUALLY SAW HER WITH MY TWO EYES...!
HUH?

THAT'S STRANGE... I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING JUST NOW...
UM, MAYBE NOT?
PULLING AN ALL-NIGHTER IS MAKING ME HEAR THINGS NOW!
WHAT THE...
TO THAT WOMAN. AM I...
SLAM
INVISIBLE...?!
OK
SNAP

SIGH...
FLUTTER-
FLUTTER-
I'M DROPPING THINGS SO EASILY LATELY
SUFFERING FROM MANIC TENDENCY?
DOSHH-
SOMETIME LATER, I WAS ABLE TO ESTABLISH A TENTATIVE THEORY AS TO WHAT WAS GOING ON.
ALTHOUGH I LIVE NEXT DOOR TO HER, I NEVER RECOGNIZED HER AS A "WOMAN."
I JUST REGARDED HER AS AN ANNOYING NEIGHBOR WHO BANGED ON THE WALLS WHENEVER I MADE TOO MUCH NOISE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT WITH THE LADIES.
MONK
MONK
SO ON THAT DAY AS USUAL, NOTICED HER NATURALLY
IN OTHER WORDS, I WAS LOOKING AT MY NEIGHBOR WHO HAD SWOLLEN EYES AND WAS LOADED ON CAFFEINE AND NICOTINE WITHOUT REALIZING THAT SHE WAS A WOMAN.

BUT WHY IS IT THAT I'M INVISIBLE TO HER?!
CURIOUS, I STARTED TO OBSERVE HER.
OH, MY GOD...!
IS THIS A HOME OR A PIG STY?
IT WASN'T... EASY
ACK!
KTHUMP
WHAT THE- WHO WAS IT? WHAT KIND OF PERSON WOULD LEAVE A STICKING LYING HERE?
IT'S HIM! WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE?!
THWAP
THE FIRST FEW DAYS WERE WHEN I REAFFIRMED MY PRECONCEIVED NOTION
NO, IT WAS ACTUALLY MORE SERIOUS THAN THAT...!

LYNN, I CAN SO TELL WITHOUT LOOKING THAT YOU'RE JUST LYING IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR MESSY APARTMENT, RIGHT?
HEY, CUT ME SOME SLACK HERE. I JUST SUBMITTED A STORY!
YEAH, THAT'S ONE HELL OF AN ACCOMPLISHMENT
I'M SO PROUD OF YOU
HEY~ YOU PUTTING ME DOWN BECAUSE I'M A ROMANCE WRITER?
YOU TH NK TH S S S AN EASY JOB?!
LYNN'S PET LIZARD, NIGEL
TAP
TAP
NO, NIGEL, NOT YOU!
THIS MAN IS AN ANIMAL LOVER
WHY DON'T YOU WRITE ONE THING, HUMPH.
BUT THEY'RE ALL BASED ON YOUR IMAGINATION, NOT ON YOUR EXPERIENCE. I'D PUT AN END TO SECOND-HAND EXPERIENCE AND HAVE SOME FIRST-HAND!
CRUNCH
YOUR STORIES ONLY FEED THE FANTASIES OF INNOCENT LITTLE GIRLS.
LOVE IS NOTHING BUT A MOMENTARY EFFECT OF THE HORMONES.

YOU THINK SO?
BUT THE FUNNY THING IS...
THE FIRST THING I LEARNED ABOUT HER IS THAT...
...STILL WANT TO BELIEVE IN LOVE.
BUT YOU KNOW I...
THAT ONCE IN A WHILE. JUST ONCE IN A WHILE...
SHE CAN BE VERY CUTE.

AH- THIS ISN'T WORKING OUT
I'M LATE! STUPID EDITOR THINKS I'M SOME VENDING MACHINE THAT SPITS OUT WRITING AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON
CRAWL
CRAWL
OH, NEIL!
HEY YOU'RE A GUY TOO, RIGHT?
OH TOP OF THAT YOU'RE A VERY HANDSOME LIZARD, SO YOU'D KNOW HOW GOOD-LOOKING GUYS WORK.
YOU KNOW WHAT'S THE PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND A GOOD-LOOKING PLAYER FALLING IN LOVE WITH A PLAIN WOMAN?
NO- ARE THINGS LIKE THAT ACTUALLY POSSIBLE?
IT MIGHT BE, RIGHT? ANYBODY CAN BE GENUINE AT LEAST ONCE IN HIS LIFE.

MEATS ME: THAT'S NOT MY SPECIALTY
(CHANGES HER VOICE)
NOD
NOD
MAYBE I REALLY AM IN A SLUMP...
THERE'S A THING CALLED THE PATTERN OF ROMANCE, YOU KNOW. I DON'T THINK IT HAS ANY REALITY TO IT
SHE'S RIGHT IT'S ALL A PRODUCT OF MY IMAGINATION...
THEN GIVE IT UP
(CHANGES HER VOICE AGAIN)
THEN HOW ARE WE GOING TO EAT? YOU HAVE A HEARTY APPETITE... DO YOU THINK FOOD JUST FALLS FROM THE SKY?
HEY NEIL? DON'T YOU HAVE A HIDDEN TALENT OR SOMETHING?
LIKE THE ABILITY TO TRANSFORM YOURSELF THE FROG PRINCE!
WHEN I'M BEING PUSHED AROUND BY DEADLINES, I OFTEN IMAGINE YOU TURNING INTO A HANDSOME YOUNG MAN AND COOKING MEALS FOR ME.
POOF
TOAST FRESH FROM THE OVEN WITH MARMALADE, SCRAMBLED EGGS, GREAT SMELLING COFFEE, AND FRESH MILK POURED INTO A NICE CERAMIC POT
A MAGICAL BREAKFAST TABLE LIKE THAT, WITH A ROSE ADDED TO IT
BLINK

I'M SO LAME.
HAW
HAW
HAW
HAW
LOOK AT THE STUFF THAT I'M DOING WITH MY LIZARD TO AVOID DOING WORK.
AM I FEELING THE NEED FOR LOVE?
CHUCKLE
SHE'S..

CUTE..!
EH..
YOU...
—
NAH. IT CAN'T BE.

YEAH, ISN'T IT REALLY WEIRD? IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S A REAL PROS PR NCE OR SOMETHING...
I AM PRETTY ABSENT-MINDED, BUT STILL...
THEN IT'S A STALKER! A HIDDEN CAMERA!
WHAT?
WAS JOKING... THAT WAS A JOKE. WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT OUR LYNN, THAT SOMEONE WOULD WANT TO STALK YOU ANYWAY?
PSH. I DON'T LOOK AT THAT SORT OF THING.
I'D RATHER STALK THE GUY NEXT DOOR. TO YOU. YEAH! WHY DON'T YOU SET UP A HIDDEN CAMERA WHILE YOU'RE AT IT?
MAKE A HOLE IN THE WALL...
WHAT? ARE YOU CRAZY?!
WHO CARES--I A CUTE GUY LIKE THAT IS PRETTY RARE. IF I WAS HIS NEIGHBOR, I WOULD HAVE BECOME A PERVERT BY NOW!
BANG
HEY IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS.
THAT LOW-LIFE, HUMAN GARBAGE!

HE'S THE KIND THAT I DESPISE THE MOST AND IT'S NOT BECAUSE HE'S A PLAYER!
THIS GUY USES WOMEN AND THROWS THEM AWAY
HE THINKS THEY'RE SUB-HUMAN.
WHEN HE WAS CHANGING BED PARTNERS SO FREQUENTLY I JUST THOUGHT HE HAD A BAD HABIT BUT AFTER THAT INCIDENT...
WHEN ONE OF THOSE WOMEN DID THAT SHOOTING BUSINESS --AFTER THAT HE BECAME REALLY HORRIBLE TO ME.
SHE SAID SHE'D KILL HIM AS WELL AS HERSELF. SO SHE FIRED TWICE.
THE BULLET MEANT FOR HIM MISSED, AND ONLY SHE WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED
WHEN THE POLICE CAME AND THEY TOOK HER AWAY, SAW HIS FACE.
A COLD EXPRESSION?
IT WASN'T SOMETHING THAT COULD BE DESCRIBED WITH THOSE WORDS...
FRIGHTENINGLY EXPRESSIONLESS.

HEARTLESS...
WITHOUT ANY FEELINGS AT ALL.
IT WAS INDIFFERENCE ITSELF
SOMEBODY GOT REALLY HURT BECAUSE OF HIM AND HE WAS
HOW COULD HE BE HUMAN? HE'S A DEVIL!
BUT STRANGELY ENOUGH, I HAVEN'T SEEN H IM AROUND LATELY
I HOPE I NEVER HAVE TO SEE HIM EVER AGAIN
SLAM!
WHAT WAS THAT, LYNN?
THE DOOR...

SSSHHH
THAT WAS A GREAT DINNER. THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME MS. LYNN BAKER.
...THEN YOU CAN GO OVER THE DETAILS WITH MY AGENCY
THAT WAS A LONG CONVERSATION... YOU SHOULD BE GOING HOME BEFORE IT GETS TOO LATE.
DIANE CLEANED UP HER BLOOD BEFORE SHE LEFT.

NO NO THAT'S NOT THE WAY IT'S SUPPOSED TO GO.
DON'T PRETEND YOU'RE NAÏVE.
STOP PLAYING INNOCENT HERE. YOU'VE KNOWN I WANTED YOU FROM THE BEGINNING.
...EXCUSE ME?
YOU INVITED ME OVER BECAUSE YOU HAD SOMETHING N-M NO, HOT
KRACK-! LET ME GO!
SHFF-
HUH?
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?!
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, YOU SON OF A BITCH-!!

TRASH
DRIP

CA... CALM DOWN!
I DON'T KNOW! SHE ALREADY HAD SOMEONE, HIRNES!!
...BUT...
NOBODY'S HERE...
AHHH-!
PHAK
PHAK
HELP! DON'T KILL ME.
THUNK-
KZAKK
HUFF
HUFF
ZPFT-

HOW CAN...
THIS BE...?
SQZZ
SO--SOMEONE... SOMEONE IS...?
I LOVE YOU!
I REALLY LOVE YOU!
I KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF ME.
BUT YOU SHOULD GIVE ME A CHANCE TOO...!

HONEST...!
THIS TIME, IT'S NOT A LIE.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH I THINK I'LL LOSE MY MIND!
IT'S HOT...
THE SOUND OF A TURBULENT HEARTBEAT
I CAN'T BELIEVE THESE ARMS ARE SO STRONG.
PLEASE NOTICE ME, LYNN.
PLEASE LOOK AT ME!
I'M SCARED...!
LET ME GO!
PLEASE.....
WHY ARE YOU DO... DOING THIS TO ME?

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND.
I WON'T ACCEPT IT
I DON'T KNOW YOU-!!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

CLANG
WHY WON'T YOU LOOK AT ME...?!
...WHEN I ONLY WANT YOU, AND I CAN'T SEE ANYONE EXCEPT YOU...!!
I'M GONNA GO CRAZY

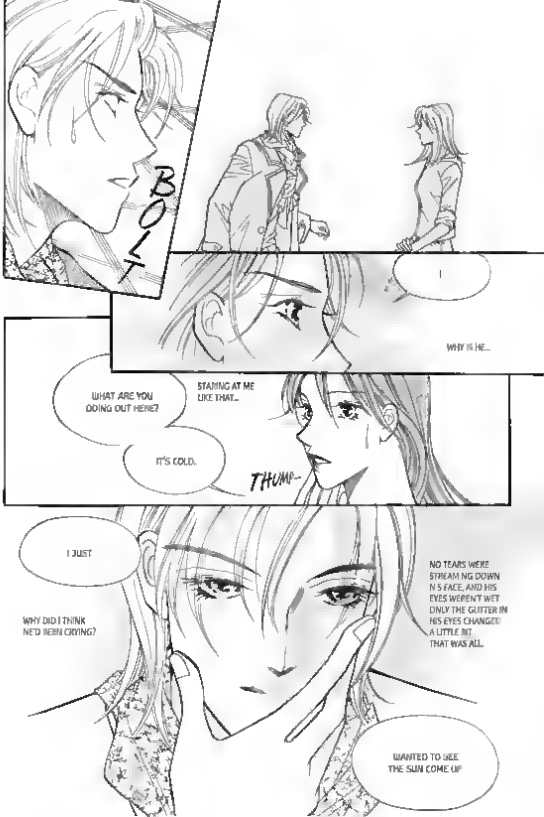
I'M GOING TO KILL MYSELF
IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU!

AH..!
...OR RATHER BE DEAD
THUMP
I HOPE ONE DAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THIS PAIN.

DON'T BE SO CRUEL TO ME!
I LOVE YOU, SIS.
WOBBLE
AND I WAS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT KEPT HER FROM SEEING ME WAS NOTHING LESS THAN THE CORRUPTION OF MY SIN.
LOOK AT ME AGAIN, JUST ONCE. PLEASE...!!
YOU ASSHOLE... BUT I STILL LOVED YOU!
AH...
CALL ME.
I'M IN SO MUCH PAIN BECAUSE OF YOU. YOU DON'T LOVE ME, DO YOU?

YOU HAVE NO HEART!
SEIN
YOU JUST USED ME...
YOU'VE PLAYED WITH ME.
AND THAT I...
WAS JUST GETTING BACK A SMALL PORTION OF THE WRONG I DID.
YOU DIRTY BASTARD! MY FEELINGS WERE GENUINE...
I DON'T KNOW HOW THE TIME PASSED.

WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT...
IT WAS SO SURREAL
LIKE A NIGHTMARE
HUH?
THIS MAN...
IS HE THE SAME GUY I KNOW...?
IT'S AS IF HE'S A DIFFERENT PERSON.
HE LOOKS SAD FOR SOME REASON.
THAT BAD VIBE AROUND HIS FACE... IT LOOKS LIKE THAT'S GONE TOO...
ANYWAY, HE SEEMS ...PURIFIED, NOW.
WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
RIGHT SEI!
...SEI?


BOLT
I
WHY IS HE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
STARING AT ME LIKE THAT...
IT'S COLD.
THUMP-
I JUST
WHY DID I THINK HE'D BEEN CRYING?
NO TEARS WERE STREAMING DOWN HIS FACE, AND HIS EYES WEREN'T WET ONLY THE GLITTER IN HIS EYES CHANGED A LITTLE BIT THAT WAS ALL.
WANTED TO SEE THE SUN COME UP

UM...
I JUST MADE
A HOT POT
OF COFFEE.
I FEEL AS IF
I'M SEEING HIM
FOR THE FIRST TIME
TODAY

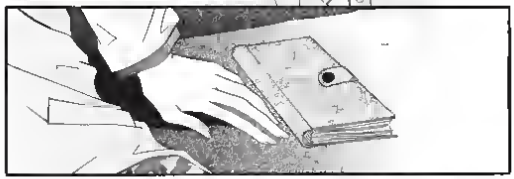
A SHORT GAME ABOUT A CHANCE ENCOUNTER

A BOY AND A GIRL SIT SIDE BY SIDE IN A SUBWAY
BY PURE CHANCE YOU SEE.
K-CHUK
K-CHUK
AND HE GLANCED AT THE GIRL SITTING NEXT TO HIM

THANK YOU, GOD!!
SWISH-
Shinch on
Hongik Univ
BOLT
K-CHUK
K-CHUK
WHEW-
ZING

UMMMM...
K-CHUK
K-CHUK

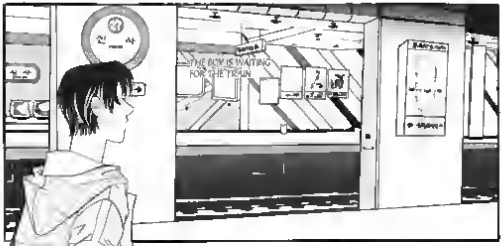
OF COURSE
HE WAS DISAPPOINTED...
BUT



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
IT'S OBVIOUS.
THE USUAL.
WITH HER PLANNER
AS THE INTERMEDIARY
THEY MEET AND FEEL
A LIKING FOR EACH
OTHER, AND

THEY EMBARK ON A LIFE LONG
VENTURE CALLED THE ONE
AND ONLY TRUE LOVE.

← rew FLIP FLIP FLIP

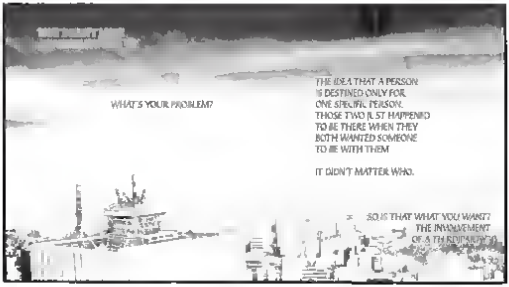


BWOOP-
HRN?!
SHHISSH
HOT HOT...!
SNAP
OH WELL, GUESS I'LL TAKE THE NEXT ONE.
BUT AGAIN THE TRAIN NEVER ARRIVES SOON
SIP-
OF COURSE THE GIRL WAS SITTING IN THE VERY TRAIN THAT THE BOY MISSED.
Z Z Z Z Z.
RATTLE-
RATTLE-

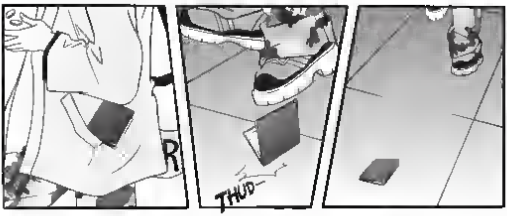
TO PRESS THE BUTTON OR NOT TO PRESS THE BUTTON A FEW SECONDS IT WAS ALL A DIFFERENCE OF A FEW SECONDS.
THAT HE MISSED THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE...
STUMP
STUMP
MAN...!
WHERE DID I DROP IT?!
FUMBLE
STUPID BLOCKHEAD-- HOW MANY TIMES IS IT THIS YEAR?
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A PICK POCKET -THEN WHERE DID I DROP IT?
FUMBLE
AH...! BEFORE...
THAT WAS COFFEE...

YES, YES, THE 2.
OH YEAH? THEN THE LOCATION OF THE LOST AND FOUND IS
AH-HA!
THERE IT IS!
ZZRAAK!
SHHF

EL... ELECTRICITY...?
SO SORRY
ZWAP
ELECTRICITY? WHAT ELECTRICITY?
IT WAS WINTER.
SO THE WEATHER WAS DRY
IT WAS PROBABLY static
STATIC SHOCK BUT
BWA-HA
I'M BRINGING A RAIN CLOUD OF ANGER.
UUA... WAIT LET ME UNTANGLE IT
HELTER
NO THAT'S THE WRONG WAY...
OH NO! IT'S GETTING DARKER!
SKELTER
ANYWAY I BET THE TWO ENDED UP ANNOYING THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM FOREVER AND EVER BY BOASTING THAT THEY "FELT THE ELECTRICITY THE FIRST TIME WE MET"


WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
THE IDEA THAT A PERSON IS DESTINED ONLY FOR ONE SPECIFIC PERSON. THOSE TWO JUST HAPPENED TO BE THERE WHEN THEY BOTH WANTED SOMEONE TO BE WITH THEM
IT DIDN'T MATTER WHO.
SO IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT? THE ENHANCEMENT OF A TEMPORARY

← rew


THUD-

SHHF-

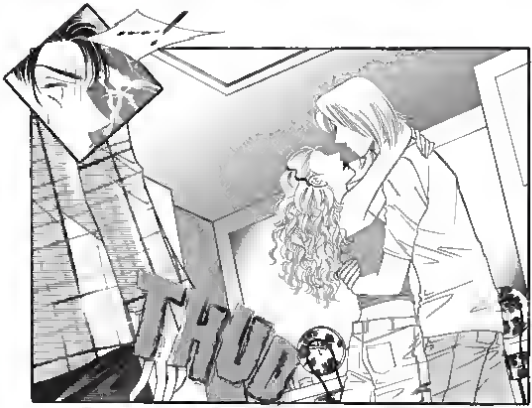
EXCUSE ME...!
YOU DROPPED THIS.
TH... THANKS.
OHH
I ALWAYS KIND OF ADMIRE
YOU GUYS BY THE...
YOUR WALLET'S MISSING A LOT OF CASH.
WAH!
KTANGG~
I'M COMING ON TO YOU
YOU GOING TO COME WITH ME OR NOT?
SHE WAS PRETTY AGGRESSIVE.
I FEEL BAD ASKING YOU TO REWARD ME.
FOLLOW ME. THE TREAT'S ON ME.
FWISSHH
(IKA-? WHY...?)

BESIDES, SHE WAS THE TYPE THAT NEVER LET HIM FEEL BORED WHEN THEY WERE TOGETHER.
SO THERE WERE NO PLANNED DATES.
HMM...
WELL, GO TO A MOVIE SOMEDAY SOON?
THEN TO THE BEACH-I BROUGHT THE CROSS-WAVE ON HOLD AND...
AND AFTER THAT WE CAN GO TO THAT NEW RESTAURANT THAT'S OPENING UP TODAY.
WOW! IT'S THERE FEELS ME SO THEY GIVE OUT LOTS OF PAMPHLETS
AFTER THAT...
THE BOY DIDN'T DISLIKE HER. SO THEY NATURALLY BECAME A COUPLE

WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN, TAKUMI?
TO THE GUY WHOSE IN CHARGE OF CASTING
WHOA...
DECENT GUYS ARE ALWAYS TAKEN...
I CAN'T BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T BELONG ANYMORE
...IS THAT WHAT SHE SAID?
NOT LONG AFTER THAT HIS GIRLFRIEND BECAME AN ACTRESS IN A SMALL ACTING TROUPE.
THEATRE

ACHOO!
ACHOO!
ACHOO!
SNIFFLE
YOU HAVE A COLD?
AH, YES...
I'M SORRY IT'S LOUD AND DISTURBING RIGHT?
SNIFFLE
THUMP

IT... IT'S NOT DISTURBING AT ALL. ANYWAY DO YOU NEED A HANDKERCHIEF?
THANK YOU. YOU SAVED ME.
FOR SOME REASON...
SHE SEEMS FAMILIAR TO ME...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
TH... THE MAIN ACTRESS IS REALLY GOOD
YEAH? SHE'S MY GIRLFRIEND
OH... REALLY?
ERGH...
HOW WOULD I KNOW?
THIS STUPID PLAY...
I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS ABOUT.
D
ROOP
WARDROBE ROOM
WELL... I'LL JUST LAVISH HER WITH COMPLIMENTS, I GUESS.
SQUEAK-



I'M SORRY. BUT... SUPPOSE THERE IS SUCH A THING AS FATE.

IT STARTED WHEN I MISSED JUMPING THE TROUPE. BUT SINCE WE WORK TOGETHER... HAD TO BE EVEN MORE CAREFUL AND WASN'T ABLE TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS...

BUT BY PURE CHANCE I LEARNED TODAY THAT HE FELT THE SAME WAY ABOUT ME, TOO... WAS SO HAPPY... AND IT WAS SUCH A SURPRISE...

WILL YOU... LET ME GO?

HEY...
LOOK HERE!
WAIT-
WAIT UP A SECOND!
HUFF
SUEDE

HUFF
HUFF
JUST GOT DUMPED

IF IT'S MEANT TO BE,
IT'S MEANT TO BE

HEY... HEY WHAT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT THE GIRL IS SINGLE. THERE'S A CHANCE THAT SHE MIGHT HAVE FOUND SOMEONE IN THE MEANTIME TOO YOU KNOW? ...A GOOD CHANCE!

LET'S CONTINUE THEN

NEXT PAGE

play →

I GUESS THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN BY HAVING A BAD DAY
HE GOT REJECTED BY NOT ONE, BUT TWO PEOPLE...
ANYWAY NOT TOO LONG AFTERWARDS HE FORGOT ABOUT THE GIRL.
TIME WENT BY
...OR SO HE THOUGHT
LONDON WEDDING HALL
THANKS FOR COMING.
GROOM
BRIDE
CONGRATS! SO YOU'RE SETTLING DOWN TOO HUH?
YOU'RE COMING TO THE RECEPTION, RIGHT?
I MEET THE GROOM HERE SOME
OF COURSE! DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I SPENT ON THE GIFT? I'LL FINISH UP ALL YOUR FOOD
HEH~
HEY YOU'RE HERE TOO! YOU WEREN'T SO CLOSE TO THE GROOM
THEN I GUESS YOU'VE NEVER MET THE BRIDE BEFORE.
ISN'T SHE THE GIRL HE USED TO GO OUT WITH?
NOT AT ALL! HE DUMPED HER WHEN HE MET THE CURRENT G.F., IT LOOKS AS IF THAT PLAYER FINALLY FOUND A GIRL HE LIKES.

ANYWAY WHAT ABOUT YOU? AREN'T YOU GETTING MARRIED?
I DON'T KNOW. I GUESS I HAVEN'T FOUND THE RIGHT WOMAN YET...
ITAHA
ENTER THE BRIDE.
WHOA

AND SO THEY MET AGAIN.
THUMP
I... I KNOW HER!
WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT BUT I'M CERTAIN...
IT'S A HEARTBREAKING AND LONGING FEELING...

BOOM
AH, DETECTIVE, I THINK THEY ARE
BOOKS WERE NOTHING TO LIKE US.
WH... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
CLAP
CLAP
BOOM
IS THIS HOW IT'S GOING TO END, JUST LIKE THIS?
BOOM
BOOM
Sto-p!!
WHAT
THE

STOMP!
GRIN-
KHAKK
KHAKK
OH YEAH-? YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD GET AWAY WITH DUMPING ME?
I WAS WAITING FOR THIS DAY I'LL GIVE YOU WHAT YOU DESERVE!
I'LL DIE TODAY AND TAKE YOU WITH ME, YOU %$@#ING BASTARD!
KWOOSH
NATURALLY THE WEDDING WAS RUINED AND CALLED OFF

HERE.
FORGET IT. I DON'T NEED YOUR SYMPATHY
I'M JUST CRYING BECAUSE OF MY OWN STUPIDITY
THAT IDEA OF LOVE AS DESTINY. I WAITED AND WAITED. BUT IT DIDN'T COME SO I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A L.E. SO I WAS GO NG TO COMPROMISE AND LIVE WELL...
BUT THIS IS WHAT IT ALL COMES DOWN TO. IT'S SO PATHETIC.
THUD
TAKE IT. YOUR MAKE-UP IS RUNNING AND IT LOOKS BAD...
<SIGH... THAT WOMAN...>

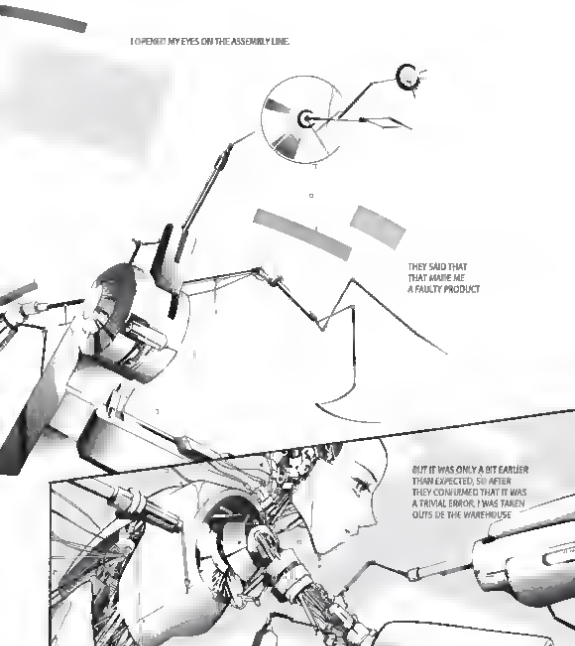
THANK YOU!
PHEW-
DIDN'T WE MEET
BEFORE SOMEWHERE?
NO, NO. WE
SHOULD HAVE MET LONG BEFORE THAT

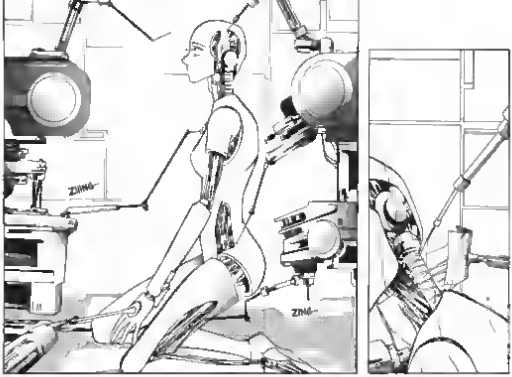
YEAH! COINCIDENCE IS MERELY THE BEGINNING. WHAT IS MEANT TO BE IS MEANT TO BE. IT'S MEANT TO BE.

IS IT REALLY TRUE?

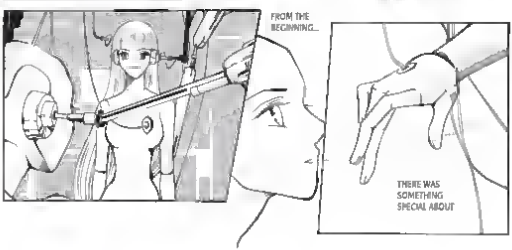
DON'T YOU THINK BELIEVING THAT WAY MAKES THIS WORLD A MUCH MORE INTERESTING PLACE?

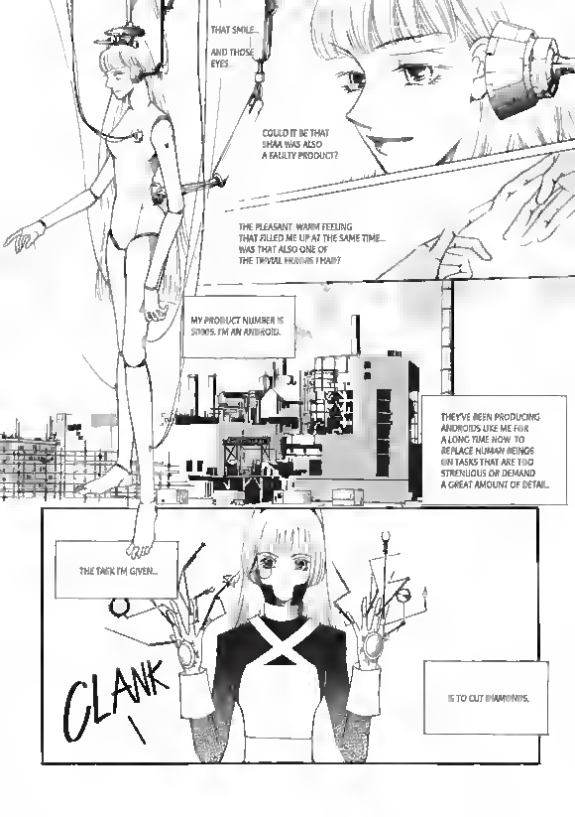
AUTOMATON


I OPENED MY EYES ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE.
THEY SAID THAT
THAT MADE ME
A FAULTY PRODUCT
BUT IT WAS ONLY A BIT EARLIER
THAN EXPECTED, SO AFTER
THEY CONFIRMED THAT IT WAS
A TRIVIAL ERROR, I WAS TAKEN
OUTS DE THE WAREHOUSE


ZIIIING
ZIING

AND...
SHAA OPENED
HER EYES.


FROM THE
BEGINNING...
THERE WAS
SOMETHING
SPECIAL ABOUT


THAT SMILE...
AND THOSE EYES...
COULD IT BE THAT SHAA WAS ALSO A FAULTY PRODUCT?
THE PLEASANT, WARM FEELING THAT FILLED ME UP AT THE SAME TIME... WAS THAT ALSO ONE OF THE TRIVIAL FIGURES I MADE?
MY PRODUCT NUMBER IS 51005. I'M AN ANDROID.
THEY'VE BEEN PRODUCING ANDROIDS LIKE ME FOR A LONG TIME NOW TO REPLACE HUMAN BEINGS ON TASKS THAT ARE TOO STRENUOUS OR DEMAND A GREAT AMOUNT OF DETAIL.
THE TASK I'M GIVEN...
CLANK
IS TO CUT DIAMONDS.

THEY SAID THAT MECHANICALLY MASS-PRODUCING HIGH-END ITEMS LIKE FINISHED DIAMONDS WOULD DECREASE THEIR VALUE, SO MANUAL LABOR WAS ESSENTIAL. THAT'S WHY THEY'RE USING AN AUTOMATON LIKE ME.
BUT SHAA WASN'T ASSIGNED TO THE FACTORY.
IT WAS BECAUSE THE PLANT MANAGER FANCIED SHAA, AND SIGNED HER UP AS A PET TOY.
BUT S THIS REALLY MANUAL LABOR?
I KNOW YOUR CAPACITY IS SO MUCH MORE THAN THIS.
10151 PUCCI SAYS HE'S HUNGRY CAN I USE THE OUTLET IN YOUR WORKBENCH?
PRODUCT NUMBER 1904 WAS GIVEN THE NAME SHAA.
DO AS YOU PLEASE 1904.
I MEAN, SHAA.
EAT UP PUCCI :D
HE'S FULL.
DON'T OVER CHARGE H.M

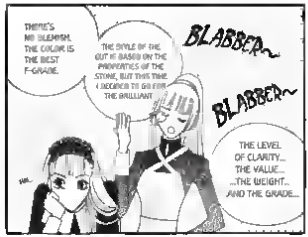
PET AUTOMATIONS ARE USUALLY PRODUCED AT A SEPARATE ASSEMBLY LINE. SO SHAA'S AN EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.
WHAT MADE SHAA STAND OUT?
I, SHAA, AND THE REST OF US ATOMATONS IN THIS FACTORY WERE ALL PRODUCED AT THE SAME PLACE WITH THE SAME INDUSTRIAL STANDARDS.
WAS IT BECAUSE OF HER EYES, THAT ARE SO FULL OF EXPRESSION?
HOLDING A VAST AMOUNT OF LIGHT FULL OF UNEASINESS.
...A FEELING THAT SHE'S SPECIAL.
YOUR RECHARGE INDICATOR IS FLASHING TOO FAST. WILL YOU?
I NEED TO FINISH THE WORKLOAD BEFORE THE DEADLINE.
TOYS DO WHATEVER THEY WANT THEIR FUNCTIONAL LEVEL IS PRACTICALLY ZERO.
IT'S OKAY IF YOU'RE HANGING OUT WITH ME
WHY DO HUMANS NEED SUCH THINGS ANYWAY?
YIN! HAVE SUCH A THING CALLED A PROGRAM INSTALLED IN YOU?

TO LIVE HAPPILY, THAT'S ALL.
BUT...
WHEN I'M WITH SHAA, I FEEL LIKE I AM BEING INFECTED TOO.
...IS THIS ALL RIGHT?
THUD
...SO YOU HAD THAT DREAM AGAIN?
...YEAH.
I'M LYING ALONE IN A BLEACH-WHITE ROOM.
I'M PERFECTLY CONSCIOUS... BUT I CAN'T MOVE A FINGER.

IT'S LIKE ALL THE NERVES IN MY BODY HAVE BEEN CUT
I'M A COMPLETELY BROKEN-DOWN AUTOMATON. A USELESS SCRAP OF METAL.
WAS IT SCARY?
NO, JUST... JUST
...SAD.
BECAUSE I HAD A PLACE I NEEDED TO GO... BUT COULDN'T
IT'S NOT NORMAL FOR A TOY TO HAVE DREAMS, RIGHT?
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT I'M A FAULTY PRODUCT IF THEY FIND OUT I'M GOING TO BE DISCARDED.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!

TH... THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, 1005. IT'S PROBABLY AN AFTERIMAGE YOUR BRAIN IS DIGGING UP
WHAT?
SHHH! SUPPOSEDLY ANDROIDS AREN'T ALLOWED TO KNOW THIS BUT ACCIDENTLY OVERHEARD THE MASTER TALK ABOUT IT
THEY SAY THAT AN ACTUAL HUMAN BEING'S MEMORIES ARE INSTALLED IN OUR ELECTRONIC BRAINS AS A BAS C PROGRAM
THEY SUCCEEDED IN MAK NG AN ARTIFICIAL BRAIN, BUT I GUESS IN ORDER TO MAKE IT FUNCT ON THEY NEED A TYPE OF OR PROGRAM.
WHICH MEANS THAT A REAL PERSON'S MEMORIES ARE IN MY HEAD AND YOURS, A PERSON FROM THE OUTS DE..
SO PUT YOUR MIND AT REST THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN ERROR IN 1005.
BUT I'M REALLY
NOT NORMAL...
STOP BOTHERING ME AND GO BACK TO YOUR PLACE.
PISH- BUT MASTER WENT TO THE HEADQUARTERS ON BUS NESS.
SHAA'S VERY BORED TODAY...

IS THIS THE DIAMOND YOU MADE, 1905?
NOT JUST ANYBODY IS ALLOWED TO TOUCH IT!


THERE'S NO BLEMISH. THE COLOR IS THE BEST F-GRADE.
THE STYLE OF THE CUT IS BASED ON THE PROPERTIES OF THE STONE, BUT THIS TIME I DECIDED TO GO FOR THE BRILLIANT
BLABBER~
BLABBER~
THE LEVEL OF CLARITY... THE VALUE... ...THE WEIGHT... AND THE GRADE...

IT'S BEAUTIFUL.

WHAT?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING YOU'RE SAYING. BUT IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
IT'S JUST A ROCK, BUT IT'S AS PURE AS THE CRYSTALLIZATION OF LOVE

BEAUTIFUL?
SO! THIS IS WHAT'S...
BEAUTIFUL?
NOW THAT I HEARD WHAT SHIM SAID, I DO SEE IT LOOK DIFFERENT

NFECTED?
F.S.H.M.
DOESN'T
CY
100%!
PIZZK
ZZAK
IT'S OKAY MY JOINT FELL OUT BECAUSE OF A SMALL ACCIDENT
YOUR ARTIFICIAL BLOOD VESSEL MIGHT BE DAMAGED
DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT IF THE BLOOD LEAKS, THE INTERNAL MACH NERY GETS RUSTED?
I'LL JUST FIT IT BACK INTO PLACE, AND GET IT FIXED DURING REGULAR INSPECTION
LET ME SEE!
SHARECH

...DON'T BE SICK... DON'T GET HURT
AND NEVER GET INJURED
SHAA DOESN'T LIKE IT....
IF 1005 GETS HURT IN ANY PART OF HER BODY...
...PET AUTOMATON" CAN ACTUALLY CRY,OO ?
SHAA...
BECAUSE SHE LIKES 1005.

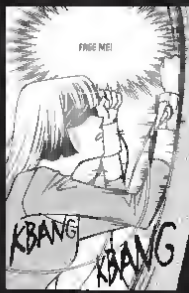
SHAA...
STRANGE...
WHAT IS THIS FEELING?
MY HEART IS...
COME HERE, SHAA.
IT'S WARM,
YET SO COOL
THAT IT ALMOST
HURTS...
CONTRADICTORY...
REALLY
CONTRADICTORY...
I WANT TO
GIVE YOU
THIS.
...FEELING.
THIS IS YOURS.

OPEN YOUR CHEST
THIS IS YOUR HEART
THE ONLY HEART THAT COMPLEMENTS YOU.
BECAUSE SHAA IS BEAUTIFUL.
JUST LIKE A DIAMOND.
AUTOMATONS ARE NOT MEANT TO USE SIMILES.
I THINK I REALLY AM BROKEN.
BUT I'M HAPPY
MY HEART IS AT EASE
IT'S LIKE I GAVE SHAA A REAL LIFE.
I DON'T CARE IF I GET BUCANNED.

HAHH-!

THWAP

IT'S THAT DREAM AGAIN.
THE WHITE ROOM...
THE BROKEN LIMB...


FREE ME!
KBANG
KBANG

KBANG
KBANG

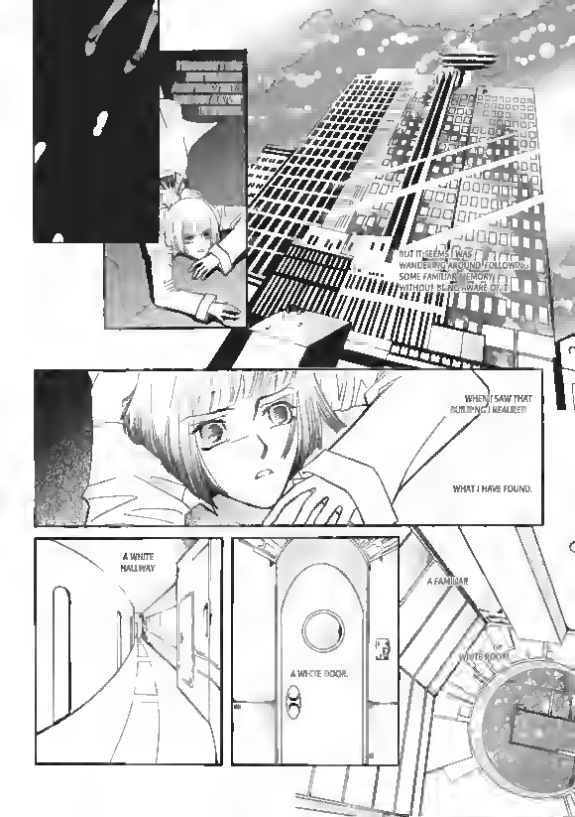
SHAA...!

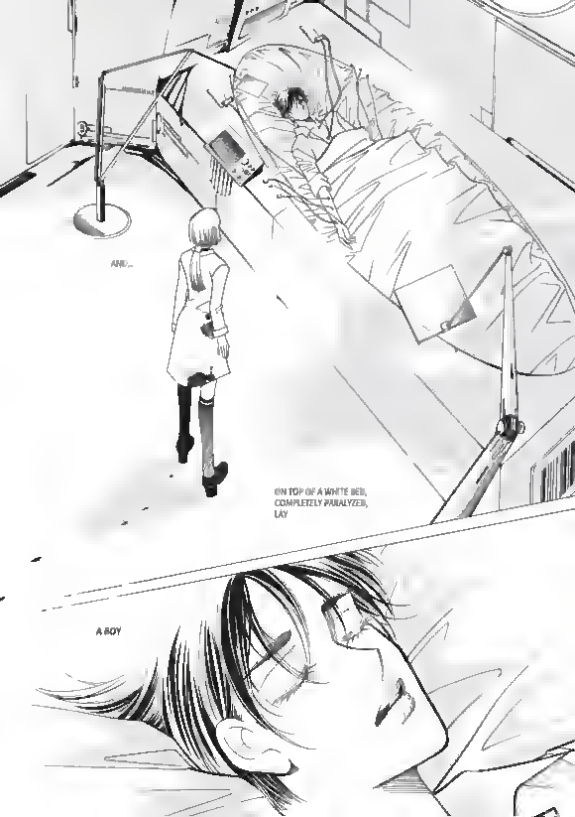
I'M REALLY GOING TO REPLACE THE PART FOR MY NECK JOINTS THIS TIME.
I GET DISCHARGED TOO QUICKLY MAYBE IT'S ABOUT TIME I CHANGE MY BATTERIES.
IF THEY'D CHANGE MY ARTIFICIAL BLOOD, I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER.
THEY SAY IT'S OKAY AND KEEP OILING ME UP, BUT IT'S STILL STIFF
YADDA
YADDA
AUTOMATONS ACTUALLY GOSSIP TOO...!
REGULAR INSPECTION...
IT'S OVER NOW
THEY'LL FIND OUT BECAUSE IT'S A SERIOUS MECHANICAL PROBLEM
AND THEY'LL DRAG ME AWAY TO DISCARD ME.
ACK!
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?

THERE'S A WASTE AUTOMATON...!
WHAT? BUT WE DON'T HAVE A MODEL THAT'S OLD ENOUGH TO BE DISCARDED IN OUR PLANT!
IT WAS NEW!
YOU KNOW— THE MANAGER'S PET TOY!
DURING THE INSPECTION THEY FOUND A DIAMOND SHE WAS HIDING INSIDE HER.
SHE STOLE SOMETHING THAT BELONGED TO HUMAN BEINGS.
MY GOD.. AN AUTOMATON WITH NO CONCEPT OF PROPERTY?!

I TORE A HUMAN TO SHREDS
SLUMP
I JUST RAN AWAY WITHOUT THINKING...
BUT IT'S BETTER THAT THEY CATCH AND DISCARD ME.
SHAA...
IT'S NATURAL THAT I GO WITH YOU, SHAA.
HUBBUB
HUBBUB

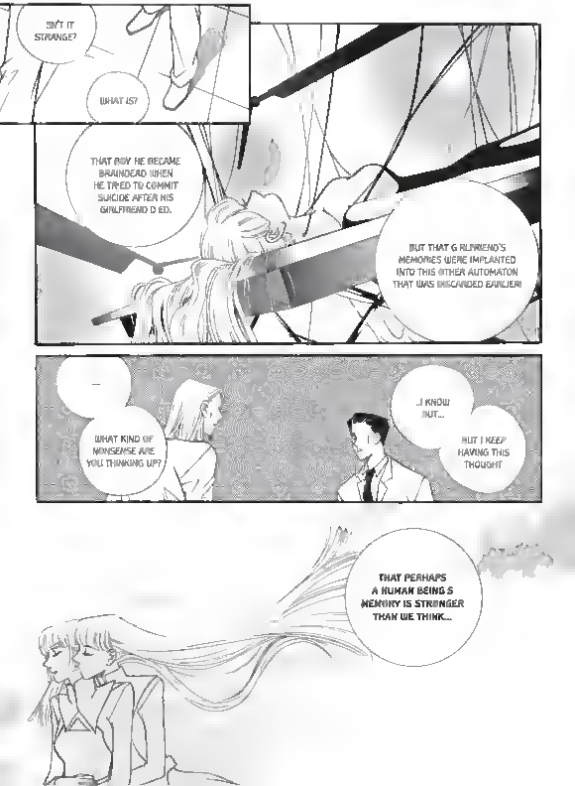
OVER HERE.
REMEMBER, WE NEED TO CAPTURE HER WITHOUT CAUSING ANY DAMAGE.
SHIT. WE'RE TRYING TO CATCH A MURDERER AUTOMATON AND CAN'T EVEN SHOOT.
THEY SAID THEY NEED TO RESEARCH THE PROGRAM ERROR THAT ENABLED IT TO KILL.
THEY NEED TO SEND HER TO THE LAB AND DISASSEMBLE HER.
I'M NOT... GOING TO BE DISCARDED?
I'M GOING TO BE TRAPPED... AND DISASSEMBLED?
NO!
THEY'LL LOCK ME UP IN A WHITE ROOM AND RIP OFF MY LIMBS!
JUST LIKE IN THAT DREAM.
THEN I CAN'T GO TO SHAA!


BUT IT SEEMS I WAS WANDERING AROUND FOLLOWING SOME FAINT DIM MEMORY I WITHOUT BEING AWARE OF IT.
WHEN I SAW THAT BUILDING I REALIZED
WHAT I HAVE FOUND.
A WHITE HALLWAY
A WHITE DOOR.
A FAMILIAR
WHITE ROOM


AND...
ON TOP OF A WHITE BED,
COMPLETELY PARALYZED,
LAY
A BOY

CHCHASH
CHIZZ
CHIZZ
CHCHASH

YOU'RE IN DISTRESS, RIGHT?
YOU FEEL TRAPPED, DON'T YOU?
NOW YOU CAN BE FREE FROM THE DREAM
I'LL SET YOU FREE
I'LL SEND YOU TO WHERE SHE IS
perpetually Yay
FAREWELL
MYSELF
WE'VE GOT TWO AUTOMATONS TO TAKE APART TODAY
IS IT? S THE INFAMOUS AUTOMATON?
HEARD SHE COMMITTED MURDER AND DESTROYED HERSELF. AND ONE OF THE VICTIMS WAS THE BRAIN-DEAD PERSON WHOSE MEMORIES WERE IMPLANTED INTO HER.


ISN'T IT STRANGE?
WHAT IS?
THAT BOY HE BECAME BRAINDEAD WHEN HE TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE AFTER HIS GIRLFRIEND D ED.
BUT THAT G RLFRIEND'S MEMORIES WERE IMPLANTED INTO THIS OTHER AUTOMATON THAT WAS DISCARDED EARLIER!
WHAT KIND OF NONSENSE ARE YOU THINKING UP?
I KNOW BUT...
BUT I KEEP HAVING THIS THOUGHT
THAT PERHAPS A HUMAN BEING S MEMORY IS STRONGER THAN WE THINK...

A COLD

ICE MIX IN THE WINTER!
...HUH?
ICE MIX IN THE WINTER?
SUMMER DESSERTS ALWAYS TASTE BETTER WHEN IT'S COLD OUT!
I HAVE A LOT OF BODY HEAT TO BEGIN WITH, SO EVEN IN THE DEAD OF WINTER I BURN UP LIKE CRAZY
SEE? I'M WEARING SHORT SLEEVES.
SHARING
NOW, NOW- MIX IT WELL AND-
TWIRL
TWIRL
EUW-I DON'T DO THAT! YOU SHOULD MIX THE AREA YOU'RE GONNA TO EAT FIRST! STEP BY STEP!
THE ICE IS GONNA GET ALL MELTED AND TURN INTO MUSH. IT'LL RUIN ALL THE FLAVOR.
NEED BEAN ICE MIXES AREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE NIBBLED AT-!
SEE? THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF ICE PARTICLES INSIDE.

SHLORP
CHUG!
KAAAAHHHH~ WHAT A REFRESHING FEELING TUMBLING DOWN MY THROAT!
WHAT ARE YOU, DRINKING SOUP?
YOU'RE LUCKY ALWAYS HOT
OF COURSE! THANKS TO MY BODY TEMPERATURE, I'M THE ONLY HEATING SYSTEM YOU NEED FOR THE WINTER. HAHA...
WHY ARE YOU PACKING IT UP LIKE THAT
SHLORP
YOU... OK?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU HATE ANYTHING THAT'S COLD.
WELL...
WAIT, WAIT!

TASTES CHANGE.
OVER HERE!
CAN YOU TAKE OUR ORDER, PLEASE?
I BET YOU WANT THE CE MIX, HUH?
...DON'T JOKE WITH ME.
WHAT THE YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN OVER THAT COLD YET?
IT'S BEEN A FEW MONTHS NOW
AND YOU ALWAYS BRAGGED ABOUT HOW HEALTHY YOU WERE...
HUMM YEAH... WELL HUMMA HUMM...
YOU WERE THE ONE GOING AROUND IN SHORT SLEEVES IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER- TSK TSK...
TAFF.

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS CHANGE.
KAFF
ANYWAY I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE GONNA BUY ME A DRINK. WHY R U U YOU DRAG ME TO A CAFE?
GOMO NEUN, GOMO NEUN!
HEY HE S HERE...!
YOONJUNG!
YOU ALREADY KNOW MY GIRLFRIEND YOONJUNG, RIGHT? THIS IS HER FRIEND
HERE, SAY HELLO TO EACH OTHER.
HELLO~
AAHH. DAMMIT
I'M CAUGHT AGAIN.
IT SEEMS AS IF GUYS FEEL OBLIGATED TO DO SOMETHING FOR THEIR BUDDIES...
WHENEVER THEY HEAR THEIR FRIEND BROKE UP WITH A GIRL.
KONZ-I
WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE HER?
FORGET IT MAN.

KAFE
IT'S COLD.
HUDSON
THEN I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW MORNING!
ALRIGHT
HOT
THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE WHERE I WORK PART TIME EVERY SUMMER AND WINTER BREAK.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT THE FIRST TIME I MET HER WAS...
50 CENTS PLEASE.

SNATCH
AH...!
GIVE IT TO ME.
TH NGS HAVE BEEN A MESS SINCE THIS MORN NG
I WAS LATE AGA N.
IT'S NO USE HAVING TWO ALARM CLOCKS IN MY ROOM. I JUST ROLL 'EM UP IN MY COMFORTER AND FALL BACK ASLEEP
I MISSED THE BUS BECAUSE I FELL WHILE I WAS RUNN NG, AND THEN I GOT YELLED AT BY MY TEACHER-

YOU A STUDENT?
...
SO YOU FELL THIS MORNING BUT LEFT THESE SCRAPES UNTREATED ALL DAY?
WELL-- THEY WERE OKAY WHEN I WIPED THEM WITH A TISSUE.
THIS IS MY SECOND SHOT AT THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM.
BUT THEY STARTED BLEEDING AGAIN WHEN I WAS WALKING BACK HOME.
IF YOU GET TETANUS YOU'LL DIE.
I WISH I WOULD DIE.
...I'M SICK OF IT
I NEED TO GET UP AT 5:00 AGAIN TOMORROW

YOU WANT ME TO WAKE YOU UP?
HUH?
I WORK PART TIME AT NIGHT ANYWAY
I'LL GIVE YOU A MORNING CALL.
EVERY DAY...

AHH~
THE SUBWAY'S SO REALLY SCARY
I'VE GOT MORE TIME ON MY HANDS NOW THAT'S GOOD
WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE SUCH A GOOD THING BEFORE?
ALL I NEEDED TO DO WAS TO BE MORE OPEN-MINDED. I WAS TOO STUBBORN...
SIR... SORRY...
YOU WAITED LONG?
YOU TOOK THE BUS AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU?
I TOLD YOU TO TAKE THE TRAIN!
BUT I LIKE TAKING THE BUS!
I DIDN'T LIKE THE SUBWAY IT'S STUFFY
AND... I GET CHILLS RUNNING DOWN MY BACK WHENEVER I THINK THAT I'M TRAPPED INSIDE A SMALL UNDERGROUND TUNNEL.
WHATEVER, YOU'RE SO FUSSY
...WHAT?

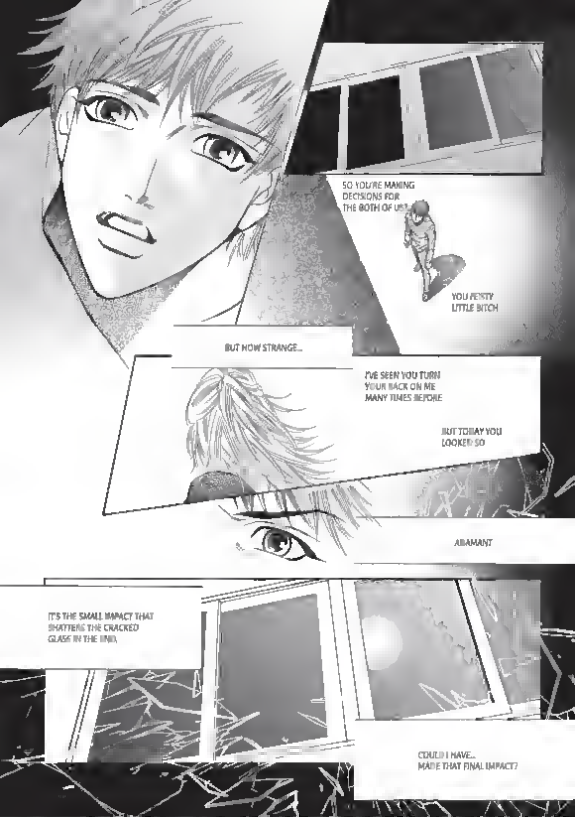
SUCH TRIVIAL CONCERNS... ANYWAY, YOU'VE GOT A BUCKETFUL OF EXCUSES.
DON'T WOMEN GET TIRED OF BEING SO METICULOUS?
GOOD FOR YOU FOR BEING SO RATIONAL ALL THE TIME.
CLUNK
CLUNK
WAS THAT ONE OF THE TH NGS SHE DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT ME TOO?
CLUNK
THE SCENERY OUTSIDE THE WINDOW THE SUNLIGHT THAT TICKLES MY CHEEKS...
THE IRREGULAR VIBRATIONS RUNNING S THROUGH MY BODY...
THE JOSTLING OF VARIOUS LEVELS OF NOISE
IN THE MIDST OF ALL THIS A KIND OF LANGUISH THAT DIVES IN ME...

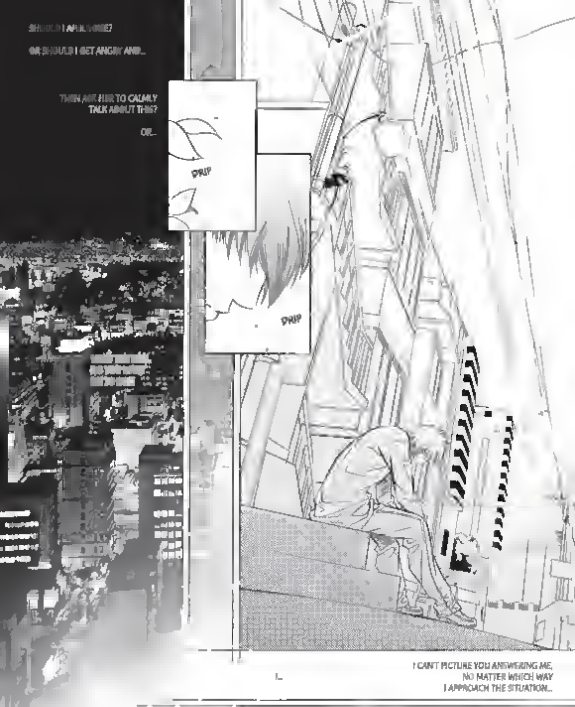
THE BUS RIDE IS THIS ENNUYABLE ONCE YOU GIVE IT A TRY

IF ONLY SHE'D WORK A BIT HARDER AT IT BUT SHE'S TOO STUBBORN.
I AM RIGHT SO WHY CAN'T SHE JUST AGREE WITH ME...
...I'M GETTING CRANKY
TRIVIAL IRRITATIONS START PILING UP
SARCASTIC REMARKS, PETTY ACTS.
LITTLE THINGS... FIGHTS THAT REALLY DON'T MEAN ANYTHING.
BUT THOSE ARGUMENTS...
CONTINUE...
END IT! LET'S JUST END THIS!
YOU THINK I'M GOING TO GET SCARED IF YOU WANT TO BREAK UP WITH ME, YOU FOOL?!
OH YEAH? FINE. LET'S REALLY END THIS RELATIONSHIP!

I'M SICK OF THIS! I'M SICK OF THIS! REALLY!
ME TOO! EVEN BETTER!
LET'S END IT!
ANOTHER COUPLE'S BREAKING UP
THEY SURE ARE ARGUING LIKE CRAZY
IT WASN'T EVEN A HUGE ARGUMENT SO SMALL THAT I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER WHY WE FOUGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IT WAS ONE OF THOSE COMMON FIGHTS THAT WE VIRTUALLY HAVE.
I JUST SAID WE SHOULD BREAK UP... LIKE OUT OF HABIT...
THEN...
AND THEN...
AND THEN...

ONE OF THOSE HABITUAL REMARKS BECAME REAL.


SO YOU'RE MAKING DECISIONS FOR THE BOTH OF US?
YOU PETTY LITTLE BITCH
BUT HOW STRANGE...
I'VE SEEN YOU TURN YOUR BACK ON ME MANY TIMES BEFORE
BUT TODAY YOU LOOKED SO
ADAMANT
IT'S THE SMALL IMPACT THAT SHATTERS THE CRACKED GLASS IN THE END.
COULD I HAVE... MADE THAT FINAL IMPACT?


SHOULD I ASK HIM?
OR SHOULD I GET ANGRY AND...
THEN ARE WE TO CASUALLY TALK ABOUT THIS?
OR...
PWIP
PWIP
I...
I CAN'T PICTURE YOU ANSWERING ME,
NO MATTER WHICH WAY
I APPROACH THE SITUATION...
BEFORE WE'LL DO THIS...
ALL OVER AGAIN.

LET'S
END THIS NOW
BARK
4:58
BRR!
BEEP BEEP
HEY
MORNING CALL
WAKE...

.....!
SNAP
HAAH
HAAH
KAKU KAKU KAKU
WHY THE HELL CAN'T I GET OVER THIS COLD...!

BOO...
.....!
NO!
JUST...
A MISTAKE?
HAH
WHAT THE... SO IN THE END...
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I ACCEPT THE BREAK-UP IN MY HEAD...
HELLO?
MY BODY IS FIGHTING IT

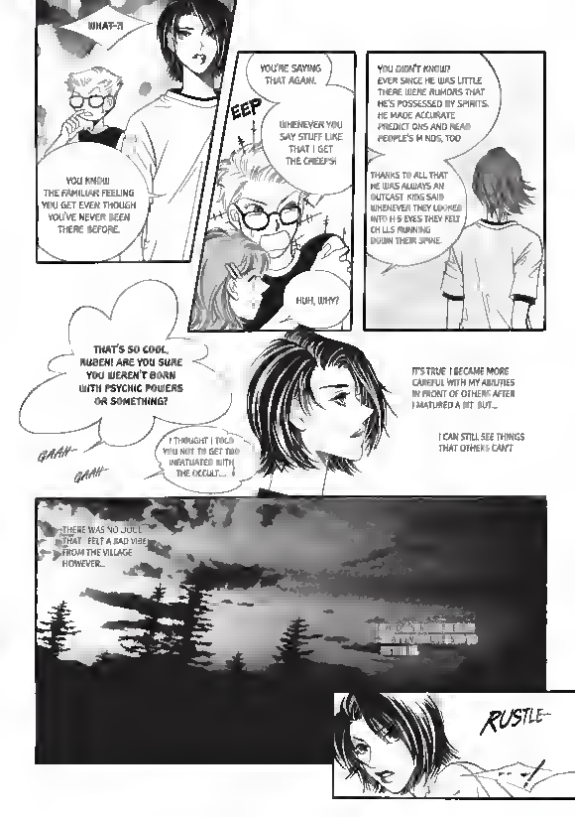
WHY DID YOU HANG UP?
DID YOU WANT TO TELL ME SOMETHING?
YOU SEE... UM...
I CAN'T GET OVER THIS...
COLD.
OH MY GOD~ ARE YOU REALLY SICK?
...YEAH. I'M ABOUT TO DIE HERE.
WAIT THERE. I'LL BE RIGHT OVER.
OK.

WOW... IS THIS AN ABANDONED VILLAGE?
HOW DID PEOPLE LIVE IN SUCH A REMOTE AREA LIKE THIS?

SUMMER BREAK. THE THREE OF US WERE ON OUR WAY TO THE VACATION SITE, BUT GOT LOST ON THE HIGHWAY.
ME. MY OLDER BROTHER DAVE. AND MY FRIEND (WHO IS ALSO MY BROTHER'S GIRLFRIEND) EVE.
AT LEAST WE'LL HAVE A ROOF OVER OUR HEADS.
WE HAVE BEEN LOST FOR THE CAR TO RUST.

RUBEN, YOU KNOW I TOLD YOU TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE MAP.
I KEPT TELLING YOU THAT WE HAVE A WRONG TURN AT POINTE 32, AND YOU DIDN'T LISTEN!!

PURPLE EYES
IT WAS MY FAULT WE GOT LOST
DÉJÀ VU-


WHAT-?!
YOU KNOW! THE FAMILIAR FEELING YOU GET EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE NEVER BEEN THERE BEFORE.
YOU'RE SAYING THAT AGAIN.
EEP
WHENEVER YOU SAY STUFF LIKE THAT I GET THE CREEPS!
HUH, WHY?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW? EVER SINCE HE WAS LITTLE THERE WERE RUMORS THAT HE'S POSSESSED BY SPIRITS. HE MADE ACCURATE PREDICT ONS AND READ PEOPLE'S M NDS, TOO
THANKS TO ALL THAT HE WAS ALWAYS AN OUTCAST KIDS SAID WHENEVER THEY LOOKED INTO H S EYES THEY FELT CH LLS RUNNING DOWN THEIR SPINE.
THAT'S SO COOL, RUBEN! ARE YOU SURE YOU WEREN'T BORN WITH PSYCHIC POWERS OR SOMETHING?
GAAH-
GAAH-
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU NOT TO GET TOO INFATUATED WITH THE OCCULT...
IT'S TRUE I BECAME MORE CAREFUL WITH MY ABILITIES IN FRONT OF OTHERS AFTER I MATURED A BIT. BUT...
I CAN STILL SEE THINGS THAT OTHERS CAN'T
THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT FELT A BAD VIBE FROM THE VILLAGE HOWEVER...
RUSTLE-

RUSTLE
IT... IT'S A CAT
ARE YOU GUYS LOST?

MY, MY...
WHEN HE CAME UP TO ME,
YOU HAVE PURPLE EYES
SHHFF
...IT'S NOT A COMMON COLOR.
A CHILL OF COLD ARE SWEPT THROUGH MY ENTIRE BODY
HERE HOT COFFEE.
WE WERE LUCKY TO COME ACROSS YOU WHILE YOU WERE OUT ON YOUR HUNTING TRIP JEREMIAH. WE WERE ABOUT TO SLEEP OUTDOORS TONIGHT.
YOU GUYS ARE BALLSY WE GET A PACK OF WILD DOGS AT NIGHT IN THIS AREA.
HMM~

I HATE IMMATURE IDIOTS WHO GO ON ROAD TRIPS IN HERDS BY THE HIGHWAY
THEY ALWAYS BRING A BUNCH OF PROBLEMS WITH THEM.
I WAS JUST TRYING TO BE FRIENDLY...
I GUESS THAT WAS ONE WAY TO LOOK AT IT...
TOK
YIKES! FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT I WAS TOUCHING SOMETHING THAT WAS ALIVE...
IT'S OLD...
WHAT IS THIS STAIN?
YOU LIKE IT?
UM, UH... I IT JUST LOOKS A BIT PECULIAR...
MIRA
YEAH?

THEN KEEP IT.
CLICK
EX, EXCUSE ME?
DO I LOOK LIKE A GIRL TO YOU?
WHY ARE YOU GIVING ME-
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THINGS LIKE THIS.
POP-
I KNOW-
AND YOU HAVE A GIRL RIGHT HERE.

BUT I'LL LET THIS ONE GO. I GUESS. 'CUZ IT'S GOES SO WELL WITH THE COLOR OF YOUR EYES.
LOOK, IT'S DARK PURPLE.
...ISN'T THIS... A VALUABLE THING?
IT'S JUST SOMETHING I FOUND AROUND HERE
I DON'T HAVE A SISTER OR A GIRLFRIEND... AND I HAVE NO PARTICULAR USE FOR IT EITHER.
THINK OF IT AS A CHARM. IT BROUGHT ME GOOD LUCK ONCE.
HMM- I WONDER WHY YOU DON'T HAVE A G.F.? PINCHED WITH A FACE LIKE YOURS. MAYBE YOU LIKE RUBEN... OOF!
THWAP
JUDGING FROM THE FACT THAT THE ROADS HAVE ALL TRUE DISAPPEARED IN THE FOREST AND EVEN INSIDE THE VILLAGE, THIS PLACE MUST HAVE BEEN DESERTED FOR A LONG TIME.

THEY SAY BAD LUCK CAN BE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE... ISN'T IT COOL SPENDING THE NIGHT HERE?
WE HAVE A HEARTH INSTEAD OF A CAMP FIRE, SO ALL WE NEED IS A GHOST STORY!
HUH...?
PAT...!
YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU A GHOST STORY?
REALLY?
THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE
KLIK-
I THINK YOU'LL BE PLENTY SCARED IF I TELL YOU ABOUT WITCHES AND CURSES, RIGHT?
ESPECIALLY IF IT'S A TRUE STORY...
YOU SEE, THIS VILLAGE WAS ABANDONED BECAUSE OF A CURSE.
I NEED TO GO OUTSIDE
KREEK-

YO RUBEN
YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM THE GHOST STORY ARE YOU?
N- NO, I'M JUST...
YOU GOING TO THE BATHROOM?
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
A WITCH TRIAL?

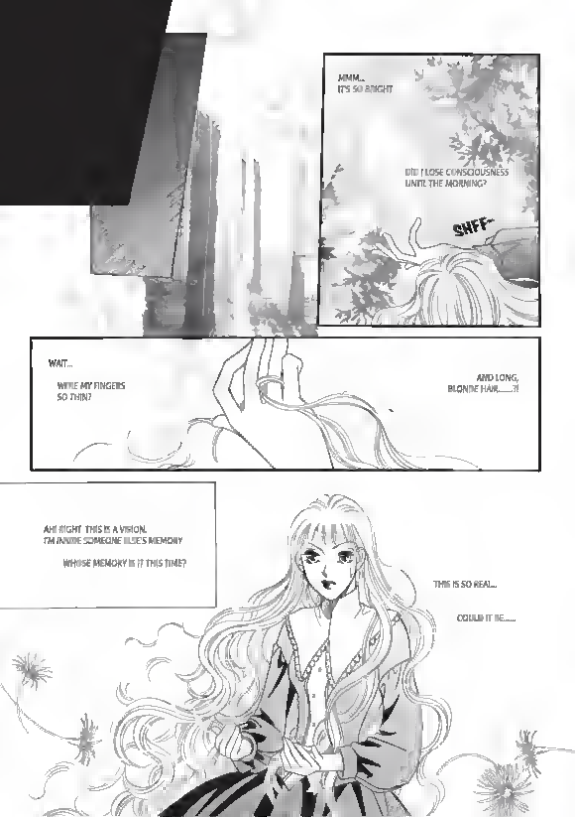
THEY SAY THIS VILLAGE WAS A BIT STRANGE TO BEGIN WITH
THE VILLAGERS WERE THE MOST FANATIC PROTESTANTS AMONG THE EARLIER PILGRIM SETTLERS. THEY CONTINUED WITH THEIR LIFE OF ISOLATION, SHUT OFF FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
THERE WAS NOTHING STRANGE ABOUT HAVING A WITCH TRIAL HERE.
THE VICTIM WAS A GIRL WHO WAS ABOUT YOUR AGE, PAT.
SHE WAS BORN WITH A SPECIAL TALENT THAT ENABLED HER TO COMMUNICATE WITH ANIMALS AND PLANTS, FORETELL THE FUTURE, AND SEE SPIRITS
THOUGH IN THE END, THAT'S WHAT GOT HER BURNED AT THE STAKE!!

BUT THE GIRL REALLY WAS A WITCH
THE THING WAS, SHE WASN'T EVIL. EVIL WAS IN THE HEARTS OF THE VILLAGE PEOPLE.
BECAUSE BY TURNING AN INNOCENT GIRL INTO A DEVIL WITH THEIR OWN HANDS, THEY BROUGHT ON THE CURSE.
THE... THE CURSE?
YIKES!
BECAUSE SHE WAS KILLED, THE GIRL DECIDED TO TAKE ALL THE OTHER GIRLS HER AGE WITH HER.
AND SURE ENOUGH, THE VILLAGE GIRLS DIED OF AN UNKNOWN PLAGUE. ALL OF THEM, NOT ONE GIRL LEFT.
I'M HOT..!
I'M HOT... MY BODY IS BURNING..!
THEY PERISHED WHILE SCREAMING HOW HOT THEY WERE, TORMENTED BY HALLUCINATIONS AND HIGH FEVER.
THE DEVIL... THE DEVIL IS GLARING AT ME!

BUT EVEN AFTER THAT ALL THE GIRLS WHO WERE BORN IN THIS VILLAGE DIED WHEN THEY REACHED THAT AGE.
EVEN THE ONES WHO DON'T BELIEVE IN THE CURSE GOT FRIGHTENED... AND START NG WITH THE FAM LIES WITH DAUGHTERS, THEY MOVED AWAY
UNTIL NOTHING WAS LEFT IN THE VILLAGE EXCEPT GHOSTS AND GRAVES!
HELLO ..!
...SO YOU DID COME!
AS IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU CAN DO HERE ..!

PAT WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
YOU'RE A GIRL TOO
BOO!
NO! STOP IT! YOU KNOW I BELIEVE IN THE SUPERNATURAL!
HAHA! YOU SCARED? WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BE SCARED FOR? I'M HERE.
BOOK OF THE ANIMAL OR WHATEVER
EEH-
ANYWAY RUBEN'S BEEN OUT FOR A LONG TIME.
SHIT IS HE CONSIPATED?
GWARRRR
DO YOU SEE THE SHADOWS BEHIND ME? YES THEY'RE THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD GIRLS!
THEY STILL CRY OUT IN PAIN AND HATE ME BUT THAT HATRED ACTUALLY GIVES ME STRENGTH

DID YOU THINK YOU'D BE SPARED BECAUSE YOU'RE A BOY? !!!
THIS GIRL... HER EYES ARE JUST LIKE MINE...
YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR ME. GO AWAY, YOU FAKE MEDIUM!
WILD DOGS?
NO...!
FLAGGH


MMM...
IT'S SO BRIGHT
DID I LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS UNTIL THE MORNING?
SNFF~
WAIT...
WERE MY FINGERS SO THIN?
AND LONG, BLONDE HAIR.....?!
AHI RIGHT. THIS IS A VISION. I'M INSIDE SOMEONE ELSE'S MEMORY
WHOSE MEMORY IS IT THIS TIME?
THIS IS SO REAL...
COULD IT BE.....

THAT WITCH...?!
CLANG
HERE'S A PRESENT FOR YOU FROM THE CITY JUST LIKE I PROMISED
IT WAS THE SHADE OF YOUR EYES, SO I BOUGHT IT AS SOON AS I SAW IT
IF THE PREACHER FINDS OUT WE'LL GET YELLED AT FOR WEARING SOMETHING THAT INSPIRES VANITY BUT
WERE YOU WAITING FOR ME...?

YES..
I MISSED YOU SO MUCH, I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE.
THE WOMAN WAS...
REALLY HAPPY.....
WAKE UP!
SLAP
AH...
TINGLE..
YOU'RE AWAKE.
I CAME TO LOOK FOR YOU BECAUSE YOUR FRIENDS WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU FOR SOME T ME. DID YOU FALL FROM THE CLIFF?
JEREMIAH...

WHY DIDN'T GET INTO THE WITCH'S MEMORY?
I'M... FINE.
WAS IT BECAUSE HER ENERGY WAS SO STRONG?
...YOU SAW THAT, DIDN'T YOU?
WHAP
THEN GET AWAY.
GRIP
MAYBE IT WON'T BE TOO LATE IF YOU GO AS FAR AS YOUR FUEL TANK WILL TAKE YOU.
JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE A PATHETIC BIT OF PSYCHIC POWER DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN SAVE OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES. JUST TAKE CARE OF YOUR GUN!
OH!...!

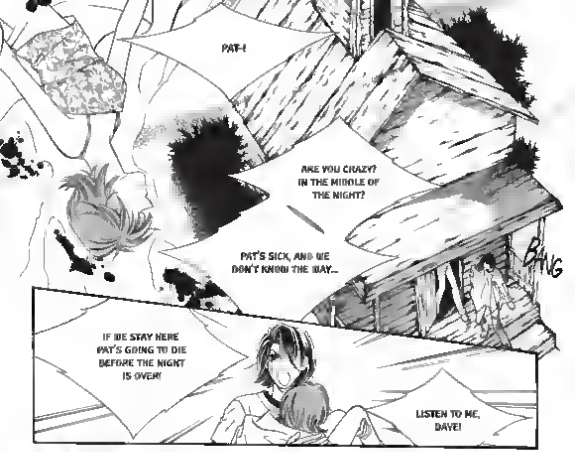
UH... WHO ARE YOU?
SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO STOP THIS TRAGEDY
IF YOU'RE THIS YOUNG AND HAVE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL FACE...
DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE SO UNFAIR IF YOU DIED?
THWAT-
PART-1
AH... I THINK IT'S TOO LATE
BOO-

WHAT'S GOING ON, DAVE?
I DON'T KNOW! IT HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY... SHE'S DELIRIOUS, WITH A HIGH FEVER...
HER FOREHEAD IT'S PRACTICALLY ON FIRE!

PAT!
WAKE UP! PAT!
RU...RUBEN...

S.. SAVE ME...!
HAFF
I'M.. I'M SO SCARED...!
GRIP
HAFF

THAT FACE.. I SAW IT. THE FLESH MELTING IN THE FIRE, WITH THE SKULL EXPOSED...
HOT... IT'S SO HOT... THIS UNBEARABLE HEAT IS BOILING UP AND I THINK MY HEART'S GONNA BURST...!


PAT-!
ARE YOU CRAZY? IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
PAT'S SICK, AND WE DON'T KNOW THE WAY...
BANG
IF WE STAY HERE PAT'S GOING TO DIE BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OVER!
LISTEN TO ME, DAVE!

PLEASE

OKAY I'LL GO GET THE CAR.
SOMETHING'S GOING ON...

PAT!
KLIK

KHAAA
NO NO...!
CRAAARK
DAVE,
GET OUT OF THE CAR!
NOW!
EEAAAAH

KRUNCH
FLAP FLAP FLAP
DAAAVE!
WHY. WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS...?
HURTING PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS, WHO'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG...!

NOW DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE PAIN OF LOSING SOMEONE YOU LOVE?
THEY DID IT TOO THEY KILLED SOMEONE WHO HAD DONE NOTHING WRONG
ONLY BECAUSE I GOT IN THEIR WAY
NOT AGAIN...
THROB
ANOTHER VISION...!
JEREMIAH
WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU'RE HURT
RUN AWAY... HURRY... PEOPLE ARE GOING TO COME AND TAKE YOU AWAY

THERE GOES MY
GET HIM!
SLAM!
STAMPEDE
DAMMIT!
JEREMIAH!
NO PLEASE...
DON'T TOUCH HER.
WHAT HAPPENED TO JEREMIAH?
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?
AH, THAT PAIR CAME... WE DIDN'T MEAN TO, BUT HE WAS RESISTING SO VIOLENTLY THAT
HE JUST FELL?

WAKE UP!
SNAP OUT OF IT!
YOU...
I SAW YOU!
HUFF...
YOU'RE NOT HUMAN AS I THOUGHT! YOU'RE THAT WITCH'S.
YES, I WAS HER LOVER.
THAT'S WHY I WARNED YOU TO RUN AWAY
I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY MORE PEOPLE GETTING KILLED EITHER!
CRACK
CRACK

I'M GOING TO GET YOU FOR THIS...!
I KNOW WHAT SUFFERING THAT BITCH WENT THROUGH,
AND MY HEART HURTS TOO... BUT THIS SHOULDN'T BE HAPPENING!
I WON'T FORGIVE...
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS? WHAT ABOUT THEIR SUFFERING?
MURDERING SO MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE IN THE NAME OF REVENGE... SHE'S A REAL BITCH!
I CAN'T FORGIVE!
CAN'T YOU HEAR THAT CRY? THE CRIES OF THE CHILDREN IN PAIN...?
I WON'T FORGIVE!
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO CALLED ME HERE, TO HELP THEM!
SO I'M NOT GOING TO BACK OFF AND LEAVE!

THE SUFFERING OF OTHER PEOPLE? HOW FUNNY!
THE REASON WHY I'M HERE IS BECAUSE
SSSHHH
DON'T LISTEN TO HER!
DON'T REMEMBER IT!
I WON'T FORGIVE!
YOU PEOPLE ARE SO CRUEL. DO YOU KNOW HOW PAINFUL WOULD IT HAVE BEEN FOR HIM? HOW TORTUROUS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN?
I WON'T FORGIVE.
MY HEART IS BEING TORN TO PIECES. CAN YOU PEOPLE EVEN IMAGINE?
SO IF THERE IS A GOD, HE WILL GRANT MY WISH.
I WON'T FORGIVE!

NO,
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S THE DEVIL!
REEL
REEL
PAT!
THEY'RE... CALLING ME.
I TOO... I TOO NEED TO BECOME ONE OF THEM...
NO! DON'T GO!
I SHOULD BE IN THAT CROWD...
DON'T DO IT! THIS IS NOT WHAT I WANTED!
NOT THIS! I DIDN'T WANT THIS!

I DIDN'T MAKE THAT KIND OF A CURSE!
...YOU...

IF A WITCH SETS A CURSE, SHE LEAVES BEHIND A WAY TO BREAK THAT SPELL OR GETS RID OF THE CURSE HERSELF
I DON'T DO ONE OF THAT I JUST DIED.
THAT THING OVER THERE IS THE FIGURE OF MY CURSE THAT HAS GROWN FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.
I WAS SO SAD WHEN I LOST YOU.
BUT IT WAS MY FAULT
SO I HAD TO COME BACK HERE MYSELF
SO I...THOUGHT IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS PETTY WORLD
EVEN F...
THAT MEANS I WILL DIE ONCE MORE...!
NO WITHOUT YOU, THIS WORLD ALREADY D DN'T EXIST FOR ME.
EEEK-!
PAT!
RIGHT RIGHT NOW... I...

NO DON'T DO IT!
YOU SHOULDN'T BREAK THE CURSE!
YOU SEE THOSE TORTURED SOULS? POWERFUL CURSES ALWAYS BACKFIRE ON THE WITCHES
WITCHES ORIGINALLY LEARNED HOW TO AVOID THAT BUT YOU DIDN'T!
ALL THE SACRIFICED SPIRITS WILL ATTACK YOU THE MOMENT YOU BREAK THE CURSE.
...I'M SORRY...
I THINK I'LL HAVE TO MAKE YOU SAD AGAIN.
AS I THOUGHT
IS THIS THE ONLY WAY?

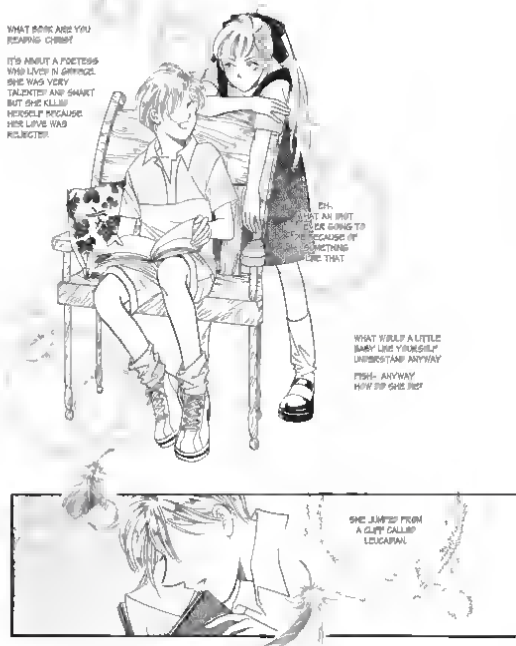
ONCE YOU DIE, YOU CAN'T FEEL THE PASSING OF TIME.
WHEN I MET YOU, THAT'S WHEN MY EMOTIONS STARTED FLOWING AGAIN.
IF YOU CAME TO MAKE OLD WRONGS RIGHT THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE TOO.
MY BIGGEST REGRET IS THAT I COULDN'T PROTECT YOU.
SO IT'S OKAY IF WE GET DESTROYED...
CLANG-
JEREMIAH..!

SWISH-
EEEAGGHH
PLINK

SO...
FSHOOSH-
IT'S OKAY
IF WE GET DESTROYED...
IT'S BEEN
EXACTLY
A YEAR SINCE
DAVE DIED
BUT I DON'T
REMEMBER
ANYTHING
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?
ME TOO,
MET

IT'S AS THOUGH I HAD A DREAM THAT SEEMED SO REAL...
WHY DO YOU HAVE A BROKEN PENDANT? HUH? IT HAS SOME WARMTH TO IT.
AREN'T GEMS SUPPOSED TO BE COOL TO THE TOUCH?
CLEAR!
...RIGHT.
IT SHOULD BE COLD.
ISN'T HOPE SOMETHING YOU CAN HAVE WHEN A MINUTE POSSIBILITY?
DESPERATELY...
THERE'S SOMEBODY I NEED TO MEET
IF YOU ONLY WANT IT DESPERATELY

LEUCADIAN


WHAT BOOK ARE YOU READING CHIBI?
IT'S ABOUT A POETESS WHO LIVES IN GARRIGE. SHE WAS VERY TALENTED AND SMART BUT SHE KILLED HERSELF BECAUSE HER LOVE WAS REJECTED!
EH. WHAT AN IDIOT SHE GOING TO BECAUSE OF SOMETHING LIKE THAT
WHAT WOULD A LITTLE BABY LIKE YOU KNOW!? UNDERSTAND ANYWAY
PSH~ ANYWAY HOW DID SHE DIE?
SHE JUMPED FROM A CLIFF CALLED LEUCADIAN.

ONCE YOU ARRIVE AT PIRAEUS, THE OUTER PORT OF ATHENS, IT'S A PRETTY GOOD IDEA TO VISIT THE ISLAND OF LESBOS. THE LEGEND OF SAPPHO STARTED THERE.
KERSPLASH
THE POETESS WHO KILLED HERSELF?
...IT'S BECAUSE OF THE LEGEND OF THE LEUCADIAN CLIFF
WHICH GOES SOMETHING LIKE, A PERSON WITH A BROKEN HEART WILL RECOVER FROM HIS OR HER LOSS IF THEY SURVIVE JUMPING OFF THE LEUCADIAN CLIFF...
SHE'S ALONE AGAIN TODAY

HEY, LEN!
THWAP!
SQUEEEZE
OOF
AH HA- SO YOU WERE EYEING ON THAT ICE QUEEN AGAIN.
I TOLD YOU, SHE'S IMPOSSIBLE. TRY TALKING TO HER--ONE WORD IS ENOUGH TO MAKE THE COLD WINDS BLOW!
WE FINALLY GOT ON A MEDITERRAN AN CRUISE, SO LET'S GET BUSY
WHAT DO YOU THINK? BRIGHT AND FRESH YOUNG G RLS WHO CAME TO ENJOY THEIR HOLIDAY... THEY'RE WAITING FOR US OVER THERE.
HI!
HEY HEY LET'S HURRY ♡
HEY, WAIT!
ZWOOSH
I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M LIKE THIS, BUT...
I'M DRAWN TO THAT GIRL JUST BY LOOKING AT HER LIKE THIS...
CLINK
HAHA HA HA

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL TRIP ISN'T IT?
HMM..
LEN, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'VE BEEN DRINKING TOO MUCH. I'M GO NG TO GET SOME FRESH AIR.
HUH..?
SPLASH-
TOTTER-
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HEY ..!!

YOU WANNA DROWN? DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS?
OR WERE YOU TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE?
LET ME GO
SNAP
...WHAT DO YOU CARE?
I
THAT... THAT'S CAUSE...
U- WHY SHOULDN'T I CARE? DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH MY FRIEND AND I WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS MEDITERRANEAN TRIP?
HE WORKED ALL SEMESTER LONG AT A FAST FOOD JOINT TO MAKE MONEY FOR THE TRIP! THANKS TO THAT, NOW I FEEL SICK WHENEVER I SMELL HAMBURGERS!
YELP-
YELP-
BUT WHAT IF AN ACCIDENT OCCURRED ON THE SHIP? WHAT YOU'RE GONNA RUIN SOMEONE'S PRECIOUS VACATION TOO?!
...HA!
GOODNESS...
I'M NOT GOING TO RUIN YOUR VACATION. SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
AT LEAST NOT HERE...
SWISH-

HERE!
PLOPP
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU. DON'T YOU THINK THIS'S WAY BETTER AT RELIEVING STRESS
THAN STARING AT THE DARK SEA ALL BY YOURSELF?
RRRLL-
CLINK-
HOW ABOUT NOW? YOU FEEL BETTER, MAYA?
HIC-

...?!
I GUESS... I CAN'T HELP LAUGHING.
BAP-
YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU A STORY?
...LONG TIME AGO THERE LIVED A BOY AND A GIRL.
THEY LIVED NEXT DOOR TO EACH OTHER AND PLAYED WITH EACH OTHER EVERY SINGLE DAY
THEY WENT TO SCHOOL HOLDING HANDS, GOT INTO TROUBLE TOGETHER, GOT PUNISHED TOGETHER...
READ THE SAME BOOKS LISTENED TO THE SAME MUSIC, LIKED THE SAME CELEBRITIES. THERE WAS NOTHING THEY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER.
BUT AS THE TIME WENT BY, THEY GREW UP. A CERTAIN DISTANCE CAME INBTWEEN THEM, BUT THE GIRL STILL DESPERATELY FOLLOWED THE BOY
THUMP-
HO... HOW CUTE...!

...ISN'T IT REALLY STUPID?
ALTHOUGH SHE NEVER PROFESSED HER FEELINGS TO HIM SHE THOUGHT HE ALREADY KNEW AND DIDN'T SEE THE NEED TO
WE'RE GOING TO THE SAME SCHOOL AGAIN!
IM GLAD MAYA.
BANG-
CHRIS!
OPEN THE DOOR, CHRIS!
YOU'VE LOCKED YOURSELF UP SKIPPING CLASSES, WHAT'S WRONG?
ARE YOU SICK OR SOMETHING?
BANG-
BANG-
KRRRE-
MAYA...
JUST LOOK AT YOU. YOU REALLY WERE SICK!
...HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE DOCTOR?
...IT'S NOT GONNA HELP
CAUSE MY BODY'S FINE.

WHAT SHOULD I DO, MAYA?
YOU KNOW, MAYBE THIS MIGHT?
I FELL IN LOVE WITH A GIRL WHO DOESN'T LOVE ME BACK.
THU-THUMP
WHAT
WHAT KIND OF RAD JOKE IS THAT, CHRIS?
CHRIS!
BOLT
THAT... THAT DREAM AGAIN...
HEW

GAAAK—!
ZZZ—
YOU MOLESTER, YOU PERVERT!
GET THE HELL OUT!
KWHUMP—
WHO WHO ARE YOU CALLING A MOLESTER, YOU BITCH!
WHAP
WHAP
LAST NIGHT YOU SAID...
SLAM

DON'T GO, DON'T LEAVE ME MIKE ALONE...
WAH! IS SHE SO SCARED?
WHIMP
AND YOU DIDN'T LET ME GO RIGHT UNTIL THE END!
YOU SURE YOU CAN'T REMEMBER?
BAWWWW...
COME ON GET OVER IT ALREADY HUH?
JUST PRETEND THAT YOU GOT BITTEN BY A MAD DOG
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT SHE'S A MAD DOG THEN?
UHHH, MAYBE YOU ARE RIGHT
WHAA...
WE, WE HAVE TO GET ON BOARD. THE SHIP'S LEAVING!
ANYWAY, IF I EVER TALK TO HER AGAIN, MY NAME ISN'T LENNY!
OH YEAH?
?

UM EXCUSE ME, YOUR GUIDE, THAT GIRL, MAYA LAUREN... SHE DIDN'T GET ON YET.
MAYA? OH... THIS IS HER FINAL DESTINATION.
SHE GOT OFF A WHILE AGO
...WHAT?!
CLICK!
GOD DAMMIT!
I'M GETTING OFF HERE.
WHAT?!
COME BACK, YOU BASTARD!
ARE YOU CRAZY?
MAYA...!

THE BOAT TO THE ISLAND OF LESBOS LEAVES TOMORROW AFTERNOON. YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY HERE FOR THE NIGHT MISS.
ALRIGHT GIVE ME A ROOM.
WHEW~
SAPPHO'S... POEMS?
CHRIS...
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY MOST PRECIOUS FRIEND. -CHRIS
RUSTLE~
MISS!
BANG
BANG
CAN YOU COME OUT HERE FOR A SECOND?
CLUTCH
EEK~
JEEZ. LET ME GO! MAYA, SAY SOMETHING!

LEN, HOW DID YOU GET HERE?!
SEEM LIKE WE KNOW EACH OTHER.
OH I... I SEE...
HE TRIED TO COME UP TO YOUR ROOM ALL OF A SUDDEN SO I THOUGHT
THERE ARE A LOT OF WEIRDOS AROUND HERE, I'M SORRY
HEY WAIT... SIR!
YOU'RE RIGHT HE IS A WEIRDO!
CAN YOU BUY ME SOMETHING TO EAT BEFORE I PASS OUT?
HA AH
WHAT?!
I LEFT ALL MY STUFF BEHIND ON THE SHIP BECAUSE I GOT OFF IN A HURRY TRYING TO FOLLOW YOU.
NANI.
AS IN... I HAVE NO MONEY!
WHAT NERVE!
THUD~
OH, STILL HUNGRY EVEN AFTER EATING?

I'LL LEND YOU THE MONEY SO YOU CAN GET TO THE NEXT PORT. THEN YOU'LL BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO YOUR SHIP.
SO LEAVE ME ALONE AND GO ON YOUR WAY.
WHAT IF I REFUSE?
PISH-
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?
HE IS SO BIZARRE SO DIFFERENT FROM CHRIS
DON'T KNOW... WHY AM I? I WENT THROUGH ALL THE MOTELS NEAR THE PORT RUNNING AROUND LIKE A MADMAN.
WHEN I FINALLY FOUND YOUR NAME IN THE HOTEL REGISTER, MY HEART HIT THE FLOOR.
IT'S OKAY THAT I MISSED THE SHIP
BECAUSE I FOUND YOU
I WAS REALLY SCARED. I THOUGHT I MIGHT NOT SEE YOU AGAIN.

...HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? YOU DON'T KNOW ME.
SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD APPROACH ME WITH THAT SPUR OF THE MOMENT. I'M NOT DID I LOOK THAT EASY TO YOU?

ARE BOYS ALL LIKE THAT? THEY START JUST AS EASILY AS THEY END A RELATIONSHIP!
KROOH
WHAD

KROOOOH
I'M SORRY MAYA.
BUT THESE... LETTERS PICTURES BOOKS RECORDS. ALL OUR MEMORIES... I NEED TO GIVE THEM BACK TO YOU.

ROSE GETS JEALOUS. SHE SAYS SHE WANTS TO ERASE THE SHADOW CALLED MAYA.
CRACKLE
CRACKLE

ROSE F NALLY ACCEPTED MY FEELINGS... I CAN'T LOSE HER.
SO WE CAN'T SEE EACH OTHER ANYMORE. WE CAN'T EVEN BE FRIENDS
F YOU GET R D OF THE MATERIAL THINGS, DO THE MEMOR ES DISAPPEAR AS WELL?
I WISH IT WAS THAT EASY TOO.
CHRIS...!
I THINK I HAVE LIKED YOU FOR TOO LONG. IT FEELS LIKE THE EMOTIONS HAVE BECOME A PART OF ME... JUST LIKE MY LIMBS.
HOW CAN I JUST CUT THEM OFF?
TWIP
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME!
SAPPHO'S... POEMS?

THE LEGEND OF THE LEUCADIAN CLIFF YOU KNOW. I THINK IT'S A KIND OF PARADOXICAL METAPHOR.
A PERSON CAN FORGET HIS/HER HEART BREAK IF THEY SURVIVE JUMPING OFF THE CLIFF...
WHO CAN SURVIVE THAT?
SO... IT JUST MEANS THAT FORGETTING YOUR LOVE IS HARDER THAN DYING.
...IT'S NOT EASY
I RUN AFTER YOU AS HARD AS I CAN BUT YOU RUN AWAY FROM ME JUST THAT MUCH.
THAT'S FINE THOUGH. IF I HAVE CERTAINTY I CAN FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE.
I LIKE YOU, MAYA.

I'M BEING SERIOUS HERE.
YOU FOOLISH LADY
SHUDDUP! SHUDDUP! YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE. YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING ELSE!
ANYWAY I'LL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT PORT! YOU'LL SEE ME THERE TOO! I'M SURE OF IT
HELLO~! NICE WEATHER, HUH?
HELLO SIR~!
HELLO YOUNG MAN
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? WAIT HERE. THAT LADY LEFT SOMETHING FOR YOU...
SWEEP

IT'S... A BOOK.
RUSTLE--
WHY WOULD SHE...
I'M SORRY BUT I CAN'T SEE ANY OTHER ANSWER.
THERE ARE ONLY TWO CHOICES BEFORE ME. EITHER FORGET CHRIS OR DIE.
I'M GOING TO THE LEUCADIAN CLIFF!
CLSNK
DAMN IT MAYA!
SPLASH
LENI...

I'M SORRY BUT I DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO START ANEW
I JUST WANT TO END IT THIS WAY
WHAT'S GOING ON?
BUSTLE
LOOK OVER THERE, I MEAN...
BUSTLE
SOME BOAT IS COMING TOWARD THIS SHIP
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
VRAOOOM
IS THERE A CRIMINAL ON BOARD HERE?
MAYA!
CAN YOU HEAR ME, MAYA-?!
MY GOD, ...LIEN...!

STEP ON IT MISTER!
VRAAOOM
VAM VOOM VOOM
ALRIGHT, HOLD TIGHT YOUNG MAN!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT I'LL FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE?
YOU STUPID NITWIT! THE WORLD'S NOT GOING TO END JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE DUMPED YOU!
YOU GONNA RIP UP THE PAINTING BECAUSE YOU MADE A MISTAKE? IF YOU KEEP MAKING LITTLE CHANGES, YOU CAN ALWAYS MAKE IT INTO A GREAT WORK OF ART!
IS THAT SO HARD? THEN I'LL HELP YOU!
UEN..
TRUST ME, PLEASE-!!
YOU WANT ME TO TRUST YOU..?

TO BE HONEST, I... DIDN'T WANT TO DIE.
DUNT-
WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR WAS...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
...!
MY LEUCADIAN CLIFF.
MAYA!

IT WAS TO JUMP OVER IT
VRRAAOOOM
BECAUSE BEYOND THE CLIFF THERE'S GOING TO BE A NEW BEGINNING...
I MADE THAT JUMP
.....LEN.....

MINT FLAVOR
mint
flavor

I WENT TO SEE GIA WHEN I CAME BACK FROM MY TRIP

HALF OF IT WAS WORK, ALTHOUGH I WENT WITH MY BOYFRIEND.
ROME IS VERY HOT RIGHT NOW, ISN'T IT?
THE HEAT WAS ENOUGH TO BURN THE SIDEWALKS IN ROME.
THE SWEAT EVAPORATES BEFORE IT CAN TINGLE AGAIN.
WASN'T IT THAT YOU GUYS WERE HOTTER FOR EACH OTHER THAN THE WEATHER?
YOU'RE AT AN AGE WHEN HORMONES ARE OVERFLOWING AND THERE'S THE ALLURE OF BEING IN AN EXOTIC PLACE, TOO...
WE MADE LOVE DAY AND NIGHT.
SALTY SKIN...
BUT...
IN SUCH CARESSES THAT ARE LIKE A CAT'S TONGUE.

SAND-COLORED SEX...
HE PROBABLY LOST 2 KG.
YOU'RE A PERV
NOT AS BAD AS YOU.
I BROKE UP WITH MY BOYFRIEND WHILE YOU WERE AWAY
GIA'S POPULAR. SHE ALWAYS HAD GUYS FLUTTERING ABOUT HER, AND HER LOVERS CHANGE AS OFTEN AS THE ITEMS ON SALE AT DEPARTMENT STORES.
IT'S OKAY HE WAS LAME ANYWAY
I RENTED A COUPLE OF VIDEOS SO WE CAN WATCH 'EM TOGETHER.

THELMA AND LOUISE?
LAST TIME WE WATCHED IT YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SEE IT AGAIN.
GREAT...I HAD NO IDEA.
WE SHOULD HAVE DINNER. SHOULD WE ORDER PIZZA?
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR
CHIANTI PINOT GRIGIO
RED WINE
WOW
GIA'S RED LIPS.
BLOOD COLORED LIPS THAT ARE ALWAYS RED, EVEN WITHOUT MAKE UP

WARM AND CLEAR...
FRESH BLOOD.
IT'S AS IF I CAN HEAR THE SMALL SOUND OF YOUR PULSE RUNNING THROUGH YOUR VEINS...
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
OH, OH... IT'S NOTHING...
I'M PRETTY SURE... EVEN GIA'S VEINS ARE DELICATE.
THEY'RE PROBABLY SENSITIVE, THIN... AND INTRICATE...
LIKE A SPIDER'S WEB.
HEARD SOHEE'S GETTING MARRIED
IT'S ABOUT TIME.
JEEZ. IT'S WHEN I'LL BE VERY BUSY- BECAUSE OF THE EXAM SEASON.

I'LL BUY THE PRESENT. IT'LL BE FROM BOTH OF US.
DON'T BUY IT FROM THE 99 DEPARTMENT STORE.
WHENEVER WE BUY PRESENTS FROM THERE, SOMETHING BAD ALWAYS HAPPENS TO THE RECEIVER.
GIA HAS A BIT OF A HOT TEMPERAMENT
GIA IS ONE WHO ALWAYS G T ANXIOUS TO A CERTAIN D GR
OOF-!
THEN YOU SHOULD BUY SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.
KIRT KIRT
WELL, ALREADY DID THAT!

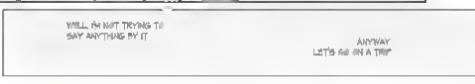
I KNOW A LOT ABOUT G A.

HER LIFE. HER HABITS, HER TRIVIAL WORRIES, THE BANK SHE LOSES. HER FAVORITE PLACES THE GUYS SHE BROKE UP WITH...

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, SHE'S THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL SMILE FROM OUR HIGHSCHOOL CLASS.
AH... NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT IT'S STRING.
SAME HIGHSCHOOL, SAME COLLEGE...
HE EVEN HAD THE SAME MAJOR...

WE'VE
I MEAN, WE'VE BEEN STUCK TO EACH OTHER FOR 10 YEARS STRAIGHT
BEEN FRIENDS FOR 10 YEARS

ENGLISH LESSONS... DO YOU EVEN HAVE TO GO TO THE GYM TOGETHER?
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE SPENDING MORE LIKE WITH HA THAN WITH ME. YOUR BOYFRIEND


WELL, I'M NOT TRYING TO SAY ANYTHING BY IT
ANYWAY LET'S GO ON A TRIP

AH!
HAHAHA
UHHH, CHUUHA!
OH-HIM? I'M AT IBA'S PLACE, OF COURSE.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER FOR 2 LONG WEEKS.
WHAT? YOU JEALOUS?
HAHAHA... YEAH, I THINK IT'S FUNNY.
OK, OK... FINE.
I LOVE YOU.
...ME TOO.

KRAGSH
YOU OKAY?
UH
YYYEAH, I'M FINE LEAVE IT
...I WAS LONELY
IT RAINED IN SEOUL EVERY DAY
A LOT...
mint flavor
I WANTED TO GO ANT BUY NEW CLOTHES.
FLUFFY CLOTHES THAT HAVE BEEN FOLDED ONLY ONCE SINCE THEY CAME OUT OF THE MACH RE

SOMETHING THAT MADE ME FEEL THAT BOTH I AND THE WORLD ARE NEW.
YEAH, LIKE THE FEELING WHEN COLD MINT TEA TOUCHES MY LIPS...
YOU SHOULD'VE BOUGHT THEM THEN.
YOU WANT ME TO GO CLOTHES SHOPPING BY MYSELF?
YOU KNOW WHAT THE SIMILARITY BETWEEN SHOPPING FOR CLOTHES ALONE AND MASTURBATION IS?
YOU TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS ALONE BECAUSE YOU FEEL YOU NEED TO GET IT DONE, BUT ONCE YOU'RE DONE, YOU FEEL PATHETIC AND ALONE.
YOU GET IT?
ALL RIGHT, OK. I'M SORRY FOR LEAVING YOU ALONE. BETTER?

THERE'S NO SINCERITY NOW!!
...SO WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
REALLY!
SHOULD I ASK CHULHA...
TO HAND YOU OVER TO ME?

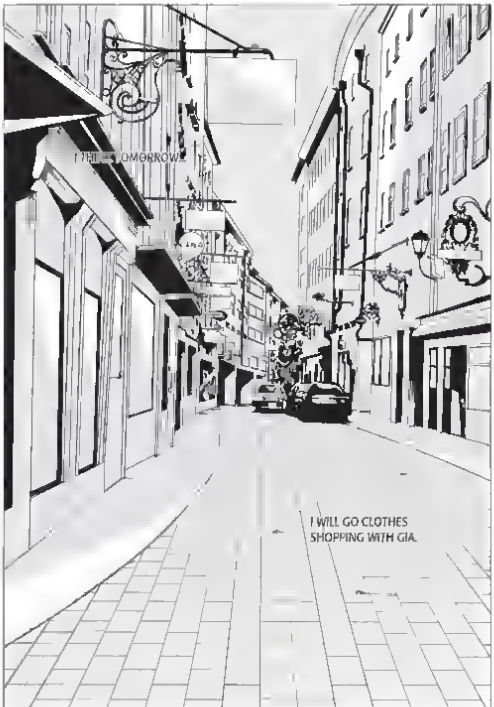
JUST KIDDING
JUST KIDDING
HAHAHA...
I AM, CHUIHA.
YOU KNOW...
SOMETIMES I THINK THAT I AM REALLY CHUIHA-Y
WHAT?
BECAUSE I'M AFRAID OF NOT KNOWING WHAT I'M BE AFRAID OF

I'M SORRY...
ABOUT WHAT?
NO, NOTHING.
I PUSHED MY HEART AND SOUL INTO HIM, AS IF I WAS RUNNING AWAY FROM SOMETHING.
AH, GOING TO LEAVE NOW.

WAIT!
I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.
HA-AH
...GET IT?
YEAH...

emma
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW A THING ABOUT ART HISTORY
I JUST... FOLLOWED GAS'S LEAD.

Sarah Vaughan
CENTRAL
I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY MORE
BOYFRIENDS FROM NEW JAIL


I WILL GO CLOTHES SHOPPING WITH GIA.

A FLYING LESSON

IT'S SIMPLE. THINK OF IT AS A DUCKLING!
THE FIRST THING HE SEES AFTER HATCHING FROM THE EGG, HE BELIEVES IT TO BE HIS MOMMY
DO SOMETHING. I'M ABOUT TO GO CRAZY BECAUSE OF THIS CHICK..!
CRAZY?
HE NEVER STAYS AWAY FROM ME, EVEN WHEN I'M IN THE BATHROOM, NOT TO MENT ON WHEN I EAT AND SLEEP
I RAN AWAY FROM HIM ONCE BUT I HAD TO GIVE UP THE PLAN BECAUSE HE CRIED AS IF HE WAS ABOUT TO D.E.
Ma...
BESIDES, HE WON'T EAT ANYTHING EXCEPT THE FOOD I FEED HIM
I THINK I'LL FALL ILL BEFORE THIS KID DOES
HEEH-
YOU STUPID BIRD BRAIN! WHY ARE YOU SO HAPPY? CAN'T YOU SEE THAT YOU'RE SLOWLY KILLING ME!

NOW THAT THIS HAS HAPPENED, BE A GOOD MOMMY.
FEED AND CLOTHE HIM WELL, AND BRING HIM UP TO BE A BEAUTIFUL BIRD...
THEN WHAT?
MARRY H M OFF TO A MAN?
HE'S A BABY. BESIDES, HOW CAN A 14-YEAR-OLD BE A MOMMY?
THEN WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? HE ONLY L KES YOU.
HE LIKES YOU VERY VERY MUCH.
LOOK AT H M SEE HOW CUTE HE IS?
HE LOVES YOU UNCONDIT ONALLY EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE AN IMMATURE AND IRRESPONSIBLE MOMMY
Ma Ma
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LOVED L KE THIS, MISS?

YEAH. TO BE HONEST
I'M A BIT THANKFUL AND AMAZED THAT HE'S SO ATTACHED TO ME, ONLY ME.
BESIDES, HE'S REALLY CUTE.
ALRIGHT, PLEASE ANSWER.
WHAT'S THE GERMANIC TRIBE THAT DESTROYED THE WEST ROMAN EMPIRE?
THA... THAT'S--
DESPAIR~
GOACER!
HE'S PRETTY SMART FOR A BIRD BRAIN.
I THINK HE MIGHT BE SMARTER THAN YOU M'SS
I DID WELL, RIGHT?

YES, YOU DID VERY WELL, LILDA... BUT THINK YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN SOMETHING ELSE BESIDES HISTORY. SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT
WHEN YOU GET OLDER, GROW TALLER AND YOUR WINGS BECOME STRONGER, YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO FLY
AND YOU'LL LEAVE YOUR MOMMY AND LIVE BY YOURSELF
GRIN
GRIN
ALL BABIES HAVE TO DO THAT.
BUT HE'S MY BABY BIRD. THE ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD WHO NEEDS ME...
BUT HE'S MINE...

UM-
VARENCE?
AH, MISS NERMAN. WHAT ABOUT YOUR BABY BIRD?
I SAW THAT HE WAS ASLEEP, SO I SNUCK OUT QUIETLY
UM... I SUPPOSE WE HAVE TO TEACH LILDA
HOW TO FLY RIGHT?
CAN'T WE AVOID TEACHING HIM?
I DON'T WANT TO BE LONELY...
HE'S JUST LIKE A HUMAN BEING EXCEPT FOR HIS WINGS SO DO WE REALLY HAVE TO LET HIM GO? CAN'T HE LIVE WITH US AS A PART OF THE FAMILY?

A BIRD WON'T D E JUST BECAUSE T CAN'T FLY.
THEN WHAT?
THEN HE'LL BECOME A CHICKEN.
SO...
IS THAT HOW IT WORKS?
...
COME OVER HERE...
THUD
IT'S AN OLD TOME I FOUND
I WAS ABLE TO FIND OUT LILOA'S IDENTITY FROM TH S.
IT SAYS IT'S A BIRD NAMED GARUDA THAT ONLY APPEARS IN LEGENDS OF OUR REG ON.
ANOTHER EXPLANATION IS THAT GARUDAS ARE FAIRIES IN THE SHAPE OF BIRDS.
SO THEN HE'S A FAIRY.
HERE'S A HAND-WRITTEN COPY LEFT BY A MONK WHO LIVED IN THIS AREA HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO.

THEN THE LEGENDARY BIRD LEAPT UP INTO THE MORNING SKY, LIGHT CARRYING THE SHADOWS OF THE FOREST WITH HIM.
HIS WINGS, A SHADE OF GOLD WERE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANYTHING I SAW BEFORE THAN ANYTHING I EVER IMAGINED
NOW CAN I DESCRIBE THE AMAZEMENT AND EXCITEMENT I FELT AT THE TIME WITH WHICH WORDS...
I WANT TO SEE THAT, VARENCE...
I WANT TO SEE LILOA FLY
I REALLY WANT TO SEE IT
IT'S BEAUTIFUL.

OUCH-!
I SAID THAT'S NOT IT!
THUD!
YOU RECITED THE SPELL INCORRECTLY AGAIN!
AND I'VE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES THAT YOU SHOULD STAY CALM.
I CAN'T DO STUFF LIKE MAGIC! WHY DO I HAVE TO FLY ANYWAY..?
THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE. BABY BIRDS ONLY FOLLOW THEIR MOTHER.
WHEEEW-
KAAWHUMP
PWOOH
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO-
IF WE KEEP THIS UP YOU'LL GET KILLED LONG BEFORE LILDA LEARNS TO FLY

WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP AND RAISE H M AS A BEAUTIFUL CHICKEN?
NEVER!
MISS.
THEN I THINK I'LL BE DOING WRONG TO LILDA.
I WON'T WANT HERMAN TO KEEP GETTING HURT
SIR DON'T I'M ANYTHING LIKE THAT...
ANYWAY I'M A MOMMY! SHOULD DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO!
THANK YOU LILDA,
BUT DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT ME.
SO I'M GOING TO RAISE HIM AS THE HAPPIEST BIRD IN THE WORLD!
I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU ABOUT THIS...
WHAT?!
WHAT?!
NO, NO... I THINK IT'S BETTER LEFT UNSAID...
HAHA~
VARIANCE!

SWISSHH
HOLD TIGHT ULDA.
O OKAY NERMAN.
THERE'S A SORCERER WHO LIVES IN A FOREST LOCATED IN THE WEST OF THE PUMNION. IT'S TWO DAYS' WALKING DISTANCE.
HE'S A DESCENDANT OF THE LATE MINK DEEP WHO KNOWS ALL SORTS OF METHODS AND TECHNIQUES MOST PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD DON'T KNOW ABOUT BUT
BUT, I
HE'S A REAL FREAK.
I AGREE! HE TO TEACH ME WHEN I WAS YOUNGER. AND I'M REALLY PER IT.
SWISSHH
I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE UP JUST BECAUSE OF THAT.
IF IT'S FOR ULDA, THIS IS NOTHING...
HE'S MY HAIR !! RD, WHO TRUSTS ONLY ME!

SO...
IS HE...
YOU WANT TO FLY?
THAT SORCERER?
FLYING IS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT OF ALL MAGIC SPELLS. NOT TO MENTION THAT IT'S NEAT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO TEACH SOMEONE WITH NO TALENT IN MAGIC HOW TO FLY
SOME BASIC IT'S GOOD TO KNOW A LITTLE BIT OF IT
CHILL
HOWEVER...! NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GREAT MASTER SHIRO! OF COURSE NOT ANYWAY MISS, WHAT WILL YOU GIVE ME IN RETURN?
MY FATHER IS THE LORD OF LUXUSTONBURY WHATEVER YOU WANT...
NO THAT WILL NOT DO.
WORLDLY POWER— MONEY—IS OF NO USE TO MASTER SHIRO!
...DO YOU REALLY WANT TO FLY MISS-?
OOH, IT HE'S CRYING. SEEMS HE SOMETHING INSIDE

KRA
THEN YOU NEED TO SERVE ME... PHYSICALLY!!!
KA TA BOOM
SERVE HIM?
WH...WHAT KIND OF SERVICE DID HE SAY?
THE HOUSEHOLD CHORES NEED TO BE DONE BY A WOMAN
SWEEP
SWEEP
SWEEP
HEH
THAT KID I HAD LAST TIME SUCKED
SLIP

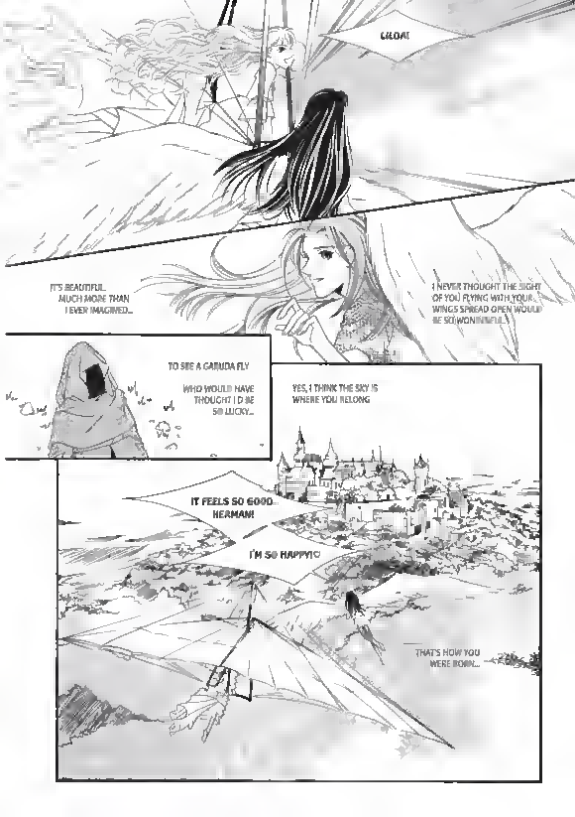
YAWN-
ARE YOU COLD, LILDA?
AFTER LIVING IN A WARM CASTLE, A HUT LIKE THIS MUST BE...
...
RUSTLE-
ALL I NEED IS HERMAN. I'M NOT COLD AT ALL AS LONG AS I HAVE HERMAN
WHEREVER HERMAN IS, I'LL GO THERE TOO
LILDA...

LOOK HERE! IT'S BEEN ALMOST SIX MONTHS SINCE I CAME TO THIS HUT!
LILDA IS GOING TO BE A FULLY GROWN BIRD IF WE DON'T DO ANYTHING!
HMM... YOUR HANDS HAVE GOTTEN VERY ROUGH.
GRAB
THIS MUST HAVE BEEN HARD FOR THE PRECIOUS DAUGHTER OF A LORD.
THOSE ARE FAIRY EYES. SHE JUST HAS TO BE THE OWNER OF A GARUDA.
WELL, IT'S SAD TO LET GO OF MY LIVE-IN MAID BUT LET ME UNVEIL THE SECRET TREASURE OF MASTER SHRIKE
FLUTTER
WHAT...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT...?!

IT'S A FRAME THAT WILL ENABLE YOU TO FLY IT'S A MASTERPIECE THAT CAN ONLY BE PRODUCED BY MY GREAT SELF
AN ORDINARY PERSON LIKE YOU, MY LADY CAN FLY LIKE A BIRD IF YOU GET IN THIS FLYING FRAME.
SWIIISSH
YOU'RE GOING TO KILL ME, AREN'T YOU..?!
DON'T WORRY
YOU'LL FEEL THE KIND SPIRITS OF THE AIR SURROUNDING YOU.
THAAT
WOOOSH-
EE-EE-EE
HER...
HERMAN...!!
FLY?
I REALLY AM FLYING RIGHT NOW!

HE...HERMAN...!
FOLLOW ME, LILIA!
ZOOSH
THIS IS SO COOL! IT ROCKS!
HURRY UP AND FOLLOW ME! OR ELSE I'M GOING AWAY ALONE! I'M GOING TO FLY FLY AWAY ALONE!
HERMAN!
NO, WAIT!
WAIT FOR ME!
SWISH
HURRY!
WOOSH
TA TA TA

WOOSH
I'M GOING TO FOLLOW HERMAN...


LILOA!
IT'S BEAUTIFUL... MUCH MORE THAN I EVER IMAGINED...
I NEVER THOUGHT THE SIGHT OF YOU FLYING WITH YOUR WINGS SPREAD OPEN WOULD BE SO WONDERFUL!
TO SEE A GARUDA FLY
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT I'D BE SO LUCKY...
YES, I THINK THE SKY IS WHERE YOU BELONG
IT FEELS SO GOOD, HERMAN!
I'M SO HAPPY!
THAT'S HOW YOU WERE BORN...

SO WHEN THE TIME COMES,
I'LL LET YOU GO. NO MATTER
HOW MUCH IT HURTS...
BUT YOU WON'T FORGET ME RIGHT?
THIS PERSON WHOSE FACE WAS
THE FIRST THING YOU SAW
WHEN YOU WERE BORN.
THIS PERSON WHO WILL LOVE
YOU MOST OF ALL FOREVER...
SHUKU
UM... M, MISS...
I FOUND ANOTHER
PART OF THIS
ANCIENT TIME.
IT SAYS THAT
GARUDAS' OBSESSIONS
WITH THEIR MOTHERS ARE
SO STRONG, THAT THEY
WILL STAY WITH THEM
UNTIL DEATH
BIRDS SURE
GROW FAST...